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 Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.
 Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.
 Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

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OUR DIARY FOR 1899.

The "C. & D. Diary" is used
 Every day of the year,
 All the year round,
 In thousands of pharmacies
 In every country in the world.

THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1899, will begin a fourth decade of that *sine quid non*, and we anticipate making it better than its predecessors. We have to look far ahead in the preparation of it, because it takes six weeks or more to reach *C. & D.* subscribers in remote parts of the earth, and we like everyone to have the DIARY in hand by Christmas-time, so that he may make it ready for use on the first day of the new year. By next month we shall be putting it to press. We give this early notice of the matter in order that business houses may get ready their advertisements for the DIARY. There are, we understand, many regular advertisers with us who prefer to give special orders for their DIARY advertisements, and we strongly recommend them to inform our Publisher without delay what space they wish to have reserved. It will pay to take pains in drafting the DIARY advertisements. Each one speaks to buyers every business day of the year all the year round; therefore it is good to make the advertisement comprehensive, explicit, and illustrative of the chief goods and best bargains the advertiser has to offer. We see to the indexing by entering every article advertised in the encyclopædic "Buyers' Guide," which is not the least valuable business feature of the DIARY.

Summary.

A LONDON CHEMIST has been sworn in as Sheriff for the City (p. 549).

A CHEMIST'S ASSISTANT has been hanged for murder in Canada (p. 543).

THE MEETING of Parke's Drug Stores (Limited) is reported on p. 557.

MUNYON'S DOCTOR, who was accused of stealing, has been discharged (p. 538).

TWO MORE CHEMISTS have been fined for selling carbonated Gregory's powder (pp. 556, 567).

TWO MORE LETTERS on "the ethical question," again taking opposite views, appear (p. 559).

GERMAN DRUGGISTS are endeavouring to obtain greater freedom in the retailing of medicines (p. 543).

DR. KARL DIETERICH finds that the ash-yield of powdered drugs varies with the degree of comminution (p. 553).

THE QUESTION OF LABELLING COCAINE is raised again by the sale of 2 oz. to a man who committed suicide with it (p. 538).

SOME SUGGESTIONS for work for chemists' associations are given in an article on p. 550. The topics are based on the new B.P.

A FIRM of store-chemists and another chemist at Nottingham have been fined under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act for inaccurate dispensing (p. 556).

THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES are interpreting the Merchandise Marks Act more liberally, and are showing imports and exports in greater detail (p. 553).

DR. JOHN MUTER comments upon the Gregory's powder cases, stating the direct estimation of magnesium and carbonic anhydride is essential (p. 559).

TRANSVAAL CHEMISTS are trying to get better recognition from the Government, as the law which at present regulates the sale of poisons is ineffective (p. 544).

PHARMACY IN THE TRANSVAAL is an article which shows that affairs are not altogether satisfactory there, though evidence of enterprise is again afforded (p. 554).

THE FEASIBILITY of pushing the sale of proprietary-medicines in China is discussed by two contributors who have personal experience in the matter (p. 554).

THE HISTORY OF THE SPECTACLE-MAKERS' COMPANY is the subject of an article on p. 552, and the first of the lectures qualifying for the diploma is reported on p. 539.

THE CONTEST FOR SEATS on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland is becoming bitter, as will be seen by our abstract from some of the circulars issued (p. 558).

MESSRS. ELLIMAN SON & Co. adduce evidence which show conclusively that it was not their embrocation which caused the death of a child at Bedford recently, as had been alleged (p. 559).

HOMOEOPATHY is to be brought up to date. Some German homœopaths think that the discoveries of Schumann, Pasteur, &c., have so altered Hahnemann's views that revision is required (p. 554).

MR. MARTINDALE and the correspondent who originally sent the borax and mucilage prescription continue the discussion upon it, the latter showing that best quality of gum arabic produces a jelly (p. 561).

COMMERCIAL CIRCLES have been disturbed this week by an advance in the price of ipecacuanha. Refined camphor has further advanced, and quicksilver has taken an upward tendency. There is little else besides these things of exceptional note in the markets this week. The Amsterdam bark-auctions and London drug-auctions are reported on p. 563.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Munyon's Medical Men.

At the County of London Sessions (held *pro tem.* at Newington), before Mr. W. R. McConnell, Q.C., Chairman, James Edward Deane (44), described as a medical practitioner, surrendered to his bail on an indictment charging him with stealing three small sums of money—3s., 3s., and 4s.—belonging to his master, James Monroe Munyon, of "Munyon's Homoeopathic Remedies," 121 and 123 Shaftesbury Avenue. Mr. J. P. Grain and Mr. Peter Grain prosecuted, and Mr. Randolph defended. The allegation against the accused was that, whilst employed as a "consulting physician" at the establishment named he sold "cures" taken from the stock before they were stamped, and failed to account for the money in some cases. The prosecution said he had no authority to do this, and that he knew it was illegal to sell a patent medicine without the Government stamp. There were properly stamped "cures" for him to dispose of. Three witnesses proved going to the premises representing that they suffered from fictitious ailments, for which they purchased remedies. Deane was reported to have pocketed the money. Miss Alice Maud Seabock, cashier at Munyon's, admitted in cross-examination that the accused, "Doctor" Deane, had told her that some people had complained that the remedies were "all bosh." Do you know that people who complained had more "cures" given them to keep them quiet? (Laughter)—I know the "doctor" has given them a "free sample." The firm has advertised that on certain days 10,000 samples would be distributed free?—Yes. And amongst those who got them were people who had given testimonials?—Perhaps. And some got their photographs taken free?—Yes. Before the "cure" or after?—After. Mr. Hawley Harvey Crippen, London manager for Professor Munyon, said Mr. Munyon engaged "Doctor" Deane. The Judge: You call him "doctor"? What are his qualifications?—I don't know. Mr. Crippen stated further that the accused was under him, and commenced with a weekly wage of 4*l.*, increased subsequently first to 5*l.* and then 6*l.* He did not know what instructions Mr. Munyon gave the prisoner. Mr. Munyon went to America in May. He was aware that the Medical Council had taken a special interest in one of their doctors. Professor Munyon had an honorary degree from the University of Tennessee. He did not himself pretend to be qualified, but he claimed that he could get half-a-dozen reputable doctors. Asked if he could name any other ingredient than sugar and water in these "cures," the witness said, "I don't think I need answer that question." Mr. McConnell: We need not inquire too deeply into this. Do you know Dr. Dixon, of Toronto?—Yes. And that he swallowed two dozen of Munyon's stuff to show what he thought of it? Was there a strong article about Munyon in a certain medical paper?—Doctors are always jealous of one another. (Laughter.) But Munyon is not a doctor?—True; but his medicines are such a success that they don't like their patients being taken away. (Laughter.) The Judge: You advertised to give away 10,000 samples. Did the public rush for those?—Rather; we distributed 20,000. Whether Deane had *carte blanche* of the establishment, or what conversation he had with the Professor, witness did not know. The defence was that Munyon instructed Deane to act as he thought best, and to recoup himself out of the sales for any expense he was put to in his position. The jury considered the case privately, and returned a verdict of not guilty.

In some of the newspaper reports of this prosecution Mr. Crippen is alleged to have said that he gave orders for 1*s.* remedies to be put into 4*s.* vials, and that the same were palmed off and sold to the public at the higher price of 4*s.* We are asked to state that what actually occurred (as was clearly explained to the Court in re-examination of the witness) was that the 4*s.* remedies—which are stronger and more potent pilules than the 1*s.* pills—were packed by mistake, in America, into the 1*s.* bottles. In order to correct this error they were repacked into the 4*s.* bottles (where

they properly belonged) after the mistake had been discovered and mentioned by the American packing department.

Inquest on a Chemist's Assistant.

The Liverpool Coroner held an inquest on Saturday last into the circumstances attending the death of Alfred Ernest Vint Aspinall, aged 29, an assistant chemist, who had recently stayed at the Golden Lion Hotel, Dale Street. The deceased suffered acutely from rheumatism, and on the previous Sunday and Monday remained in bed all day, eating nothing. The landlady became uneasy, and called in a doctor, on whose advice he was removed to the Southern Hospital. He appeared to be in a dazed condition, and died in the hospital on September 22. The medical evidence showed that he had taken a narcotic some thirty hours before death, but the effects had worn off. Death was due to natural weakness and heart-disease. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

The C.A.M.W.A.L. Horses.

At the North London Police Court, on September 23, the condition of a pair of van-horses belonging to the C.A.M.W.A.L. was again under discussion. The driver was in the dock, and the horsekeeper before the bar of the court. Mr. H. K. Shaw, veterinary surgeon, said the animals had splints, and needed rest and treatment. The driver said the animals fell lame after he brought them out; and the horsekeeper added that he had only been in the employ of the company for ten days prior to these animals being stopped. Consequently he had not got thoroughly used to the horses. But every driver knew that if a horse fell lame on the journey he might pull up and telegraph home for another horse. Mr. D'Eyncourt inquired how many horses there were in the stables? The Horsekeeper: Twenty. Mr. D'Eyncourt: You must be careful how you send them out. I shall fine the driver 3*s. 6d.*, and order the horsekeeper to pay 33*s. 6d.* costs.

Vinolia Clerk Imprisoned.

At Marylebone Police Court, on September 26, H. J. Darbille was charged with stealing 13*s. 4d.*, the property of the Vinolia Soap Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, Kentish Town, N.W. Prisoner had been a clerk with the company since January, his duties being to enter up orders and make out invoices. A short time ago an order was received from Mr. Stevens, Mansfield Road, Gospel Oak. In due course the goods were prepared and invoiced, and then sent to the despatch department for delivery. That same day the prisoner obtained possession of the parcel under the representation that Mr. Stevens had called for it, but could not wait, and that he (prisoner) had undertaken to deliver it. He did deliver it, and received in payment the sum of 13*s. 4d.*, for which he rendered no account to his employers. When arrested he admitted stealing sums estimated at 10*l.*, which he had done, he said, owing to pressure of a money-lender, who had come down on him for a sum of 5*l.*, the amount of a security he had given for a friend. Mr. Plowden sentenced the prisoner to six weeks' imprisonment.

Manchester Coroner on Carbolic Poisoning.

At one of the numerous inquests recently held at Manchester on victims to carbolic acid the City Coroner, Mr. S. Smelt, spoke of the frequency of carbolic poisoning as a method of suicide, and said he could hardly understand it seeing that to take carbolic acid was like swallowing red-hot coals. If people only realised the terrible agony they would have to endure, and the slow death which followed, he was sure they would not take it. The jury suggested that some restriction should be placed upon the sale of it. The Coroner said the Legislature had no more contemplated that people would poison themselves in this way than that they would swallow live coals. However, cases of the kind were becoming so common that he thought it would be a good thing if something were done to prevent the indiscriminate sale of carbolic acid. As it was anybody could sell it.

The Sale of Poisonous Alkaloids.

On Monday Mr. John Troutbeck held an inquiry at Pimlico concerning the death of Robert Peterman, aged 44 years, a

German subject, lately residing at 60 Drayton Gardens, South Kensington. The widow stated that the deceased had been ill for more than a year, and in July last he had a foot amputated as the result of a small box falling upon it. On Wednesday he went out for a carriage-drive, and never returned. He had never spoken of suicide.

Mr. Augustus Honeyman, a chemist, deposed that he traded as Emil Reichardt & Co., at 7 Great Titchfield Street. On Wednesday last the deceased, whom he had known well for some years, came to his shop in a carriage. He was looking very ill, and said the doctors had given him up, but that he had not abandoned hope himself. He was going to try a change of climate in Egypt, he said, and wanted him to supply him with a few things he would require during his sojourn there. He asked him for 2 oz. of cocaine and 2 oz. of morphia solution. Witness remarked that 2 oz. was rather a large order, and that he had not so much in stock, but that he could easily get it for him. With that witness wrote out an order for 2 oz., and the deceased said he would drive him in his carriage to get it. They proceeded to Messrs. Morson & Son's, in Southampton Row, where witness got it. When he came out Mr. Peterman was sitting in the carriage, and he got hold of the cocaine as if he were going to look at it, at the same moment putting it in his pocket. Witness said, "That won't do, I must put my label on it." Mr. Peterman replied, "Oh, never mind, you know me well enough. You can explain to me how I am to use it when we get back to your shop." Witness explained to him how to use it, and gave him a little bottle and spoon to measure the cocaine prior to painting his throat with it. The deceased then said he wanted some solution of morphia. Witness asked him "What strength?" and he pulled out a small hypodermic syringe and said, "I am going to use half that." Witness measured out 20 minimis. The deceased said he had had the solution before, and that he would use only 1 centigramme at a time; that would be about $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. Thereupon witness gave him a 2-oz. bottle, which would contain about 16 gr. of morphia, remarking that he ought to enter his name in the poisons-book. "Oh, don't mind that," he retorted; "you have known me many years, and I will be careful with it. I should not have come to you like this unless I intended using it properly. A doctor in Berlin told me how to use it when in pain." Witness on that assurance did not make an entry in the poisons-book, and he was now sorry for the irregularity. He handed the morphia to the deceased, who put it in his pocket, and then dismissed the carriage and called a cab. He shook hands with witness, bade him "Good-bye," and asked him to tell the cabman to drive to Regent's Park.

It appeared, however, that he went to the private hotel, 239 Vauxhall Bridge Road, where he engaged a room, telling the landlord that he had just arrived from Brighton, and was very tired. He was found dead in bed there the next morning. On the dressing-table was an empty bottle labelled "Hydrochloride of cocaine," and the bottle that had contained the morphia was also empty. The deceased had attempted to obliterate the label. Dr. Wm. Evans, who was called in, and who examined the body, said the deceased must have been on the point of death when he took the poison, but there was so much disease to account for death that without an analysis he could not say that his end was accelerated by the morphia and cocaine. Death was due to syncope following phthisis, and it was probably accelerated by the poison. The jury found a verdict to this effect.

Manchester Men and Coroners' Juries.

Mr. Frank Spence, of the British Alum-works, believing that, being over 60 years of age, he could claim exemption from service on a coroner's jury, declined to give his name to the summoning officer, but sent his clerk to the Coroner's court to make an explanation, which the Coroner would not accept, but insisted on Mr. Spence's appearance. When Mr. Spence appeared there was a "scene," the Coroner strongly censuring Mr. Spence for his conduct. He afterwards told the jury that he had never heard of such an impudent application. A man over 60 was only exempt from serving on juries at Assizes. A Mr. Cohen asked to be excused on the ground that he was a Jew, and that his religion forbade him to go into a room where a dead body lay. The Coroner told him he had no right to live in a country whose laws he could not obey, and refused to excuse

him. At a favourable moment the Jew left the court, but came back the next morning for his umbrella, which he had left behind. He was afterwards summoned to attend, but sent a medical certificate to the effect that he was confined to his bed.

The Coroner's Advice.

At an inquest held at Sutton on September 24, by Mr. Percy Morrison, on the body of an infant, it transpired that the child had refused food from its birth. The mother said she took the child to a chemist, who gave her some medicine for "thrush." No doctor was called in, but the child died. Dr. Hooper said the child, which was a month old, only weighed 4 lbs. 13 oz., instead of between 10 and 11 lbs. as it should have done. The stomach was empty, and there was no reason why the child should not have lived under proper treatment. Mr. E. P. Frost, chemist and druggist, said he did not examine the child, and, therefore, did not see that it was emaciated. He only gave the "thrush" medicine asked for. The Coroner: When people come to you it would be much better if you would say, "I will give you something, the best I can, but you had better consult a doctor. Then they would not feel so secure." The jury found that the child died from syncope, from malnutrition accelerated by want of nourishment due to ignorance on the part of the mother, and an error on the part of the grandmother who asked for the medicine.

The Spectacle-makers' Company.

The *City Press* says: "The first lectures of the course instituted by this Company were given on September 26 at the Northampton Institute, Clerkenwell. There were about sixty students present. Mr. C. V. Drysdale commenced his address on 'Applied Optics and Heat' by saying that the lecture was in the nature of a preliminary one. He then proceeded to demonstrate, by means of an electric-light optical lantern, the properties of a beam of light, the changes it underwent when passed through lenses of different kinds, and the nature of reflection and refraction. The principle of the photometer was practically shown, as well as the underlying principles of the telescope and photographic lens. Several experiments were shown to illustrate the effect of passing a beam of light through different media, the beautiful green colour produced when a beam of blue light was passed into a solution of fluoresceine being much admired. Mr. Lionel Laurance followed with a lecture on 'Visual Optics.' He warned his students at the outset that the examination was likely to be a stiff one, notwithstanding that the examiners said it would be easy, examiners' and students' ideas as to what was easy being very different. By means of a large model of the eye Mr. Laurance explained the chief parts of that organ and the uses of the muscles which moved it. The forms of normal and abnormal vision were shown, and the causes of hypermetropia, myopia, and astigmatism explained as being due to modifications in the shape of the eye and the crystalline lens. The course promises to be a great success judging by the enthusiasm shown on Monday night."

Poisons at the Hydro.

Mr. Sylvester, the Wiltshire Coroner, held an inquest at Limpley Stoke, near Bath, on September 23, relative to the death of Dr. McDermott, who had poisoned himself at the hydrotherapeutic establishment. He had been suffering from sleeplessness and hallucinations, and the evidence showed that he drank a portion of the contents of a bottle of prussic acid which had been taken from the surgery of Dr. Drake, the resident medical officer. In his Gladstone bag there was a full bottle of laudanum. The Coroner asked Dr. Drake if his dispensary was open to anybody? Dr. Drake said he told the deceased, as a brother medical man, that he might use his sitting-room. He had considered this matter very carefully. If he had anybody in the house he had the faintest fear about, he kept the key of the surgery in his pocket. In this case he felt that if he prevented the deceased from going into the place he should be insulting another medical man. Besides, if he wanted to get any poison he had only to write to any chemist and it would be sent by the next post. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased drank the poison while of unsound mind.

Wine licences.

The following chemists have been granted wine-licences, in addition to those mentioned the last few weeks:—

Mr. J. Avison, 117 King Street, Dukinfield.

Mr. T. B. Fuller, 18 Rampant Horse Street, Norwich. Mr. Fuller, in making his application, said he had carried on business in Norwich for thirty years.

Mr. John Taylor, 42 Tweedale Street, Rochdale. Mr. Taylor, in reply to the Magistrate, said he did not want to sell other wines than medicated ones, and added that he was a pledged teetotaller.

Mr. W. Duplock, High Street, Great Marlow.

Mr. G. Brigham, Gowthorpe Street, Selby.

Mr. T. Wilkinson, Crook, Durham.

Mr. J. E. Turner, 116 London Street, Basingstoke.

Mr. T. Cooper, Sunderland Street, Macclesfield.

Mr. R. G. Edwards, Fallowfield, Manchester.

At the Pontefract Licensing Sessions on Monday, the Mayor, Alderman W. R. Maud, chemist and druggist, a teetotaller and Wesleyan circuit steward, applied for a wine-licence. Mr. Lowden, who represented the Mayor, said there did not seem to be anyone present to object to the application, or to support the malignant and unscrupulous statements published by a certain individual. Mr. Maud sold medicated wines at his chemist's shop, and the Excise officer had told him he was liable to prosecution if he did not get a licence. He simply wished to place himself within the law, and did not intend to turn his place into a drinking-shop, as had been suggested by a malignant and unscrupulous liar—he could call him nothing else—for he had on several occasions been asked to take agencies for wines—Gilbey's and others—and had refused at great personal loss. It was, therefore, particularly unfair that such an accusation should be levelled against him. Mr. Maud gave evidence, and the Bench granted the application.

Spirit-licence.

Messrs. W. Ellis & Co., chemists, of Abergele, have been granted an off spirit-licence.

Cricket.

Allenburys C.C. played their last match of the season on Saturday last, September 24, at Walthamstow, the Allen C.C. (Stafford Allen & Sons) being their antagonists. The Allen C.C. only succeeded in compiling 44, of which 11 were extras. Nine of their wickets were clean bowled by R. Little. The Allenburys made 52 for the loss of 6 wickets, W. Goldman being credited with 17. The Allenburys' record for the season is 11 matches played, 6 of which they won, 3 were drawn, and 2 they lost. We shall be glad if other secretaries will send us their season's results.

Accident to a Chemist.

Mr. C. Tyrrell, manager to Messrs. Bishop & Co., chemists and druggists, Tuning Street, Folkestone (Kent), met with a serious accident on Tuesday morning. He was riding a rather spirited horse in the Sandgate Road, when the animal became restive and bolted. Mr. Tyrrell, who was thrown heavily to the ground, was picked up in an insensible condition, and was conveyed to the Victoria Hospital. Here it was found that he had sustained a compound fracture of the skull and other severe injuries, and he lies in a precarious condition.

Drug-contracts.

Mr. Stoakes, chemist, Hull, has been appointed druggist to the Anlaby Road Workhouse, Hull.

The Midhurst Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. F. R. Rump, for the supply of cod-liver oil.

Messrs. Williams & Smith have been selected by the Horsham Guardians to supply certain medicines to the workhouse.

Mr. C. A. Jage, of Chertsey, has been appointed to supply drugs and disinfectants to the Chertsey Workhouse for the ensuing six months.

The Dover Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. Lewis Thompson, chemist and druggist, Dover, for the supply of two water-beds at 5*l.* 19*s.* each.

Jeyes' Sanitary Fluids Company have contracted with the

Strood (Kent) Guardians to supply carbolic soap at 22*s.* 6*d.* per cwt, and disinfecting-fluid at 12*s.* per dozen.

The High Wycombe Guardians have appointed Messrs. Young & Coley, chemists and druggists, Wycombe, to supply quinine and disinfectants, and Messrs. Butler Brothers, chemists and druggists, Wycombe, to supply cod-liver oil to the workhouse for the next six months.

The Marylebone Guardians have contracted with Messrs. T. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King to supply the infirmary and the North and South Dispensaries with drugs, as per detailed tender, in the sum of 290*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*; also with Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited), 48 Wigmore Street, W., for druggists' sundries to the same institutions, to the amount of 126*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*

The Isle of Wight Guardians have accepted the following tenders:—Messrs. Percival & Co.: Carbolic soap, 13*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.; pearl barley, 9*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; borax, 1*½d.* per lb. Mr. W. H. Eyles: Crushed linseed, 14*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Messrs. Jordan & Stanley: Arrowroot, 8*d.* per lb.; cornflour, 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.; meat-extract, 5*s.* 6*d.* per dozen tins; Sanitas soap, 1*l.* 11*s.* per cwt.

Local Druggists and Workhouse Supplies.

At the meeting of the Gloucester Guardians, last week, Mr. A. Miles brought forward a motion advocating that the supply of drugs should be obtained from local chemists, instead of from London houses, as is the case at present. He said the yearly bill came to about 180*l.*, and it also appeared that the Board appointed an "emergency chemist," who was liable to be called up in the night, and whose bill for the last quarter amounted to 22*s.* The motion met with some sympathy, but some Guardians thought it would be bad policy for the Guardians to bind themselves to the local druggists, who might form a ring. The Clerk, in reply to an argument that as the local tradesmen paid the rates they ought to have the business, said the cost of the drugs was paid for out of the Exchequer grant. Ultimately it was agreed that tenders should be invited.

Government Calf-lymph.

In a communication to the Bury Board of Guardians the Local Government Board state that they will not be in a position to supply glycerinated calf-lymph to public vaccinators for the purposes of vaccination before January 1, 1899, when the Vaccination Act comes fully into operation. The supply to public vaccinators will then be furnished without charge.

Factory Act Case.

At the North London Police Court on September 27, Messrs. J. Ingram & Sons, India-rubber manufacturers, Chapman Road, Hackney Wick, were summoned before Mr. Bros for breaches of the special rules made under the Factories Acts by the Secretary of State.

Mr. Le Breton, prosecuting for the Treasury, said the first summons charged the defendants with employing a child of 13 in a room in which bisulphide of carbon was used.

Mr. Noldrit, for the defence, said the case was before the Court on July 26, and it was then represented that it would be impossible to carry on the business at a profit if men had to be employed to do the work. The case was therefore adjourned in order that the Home Secretary might be petitioned to relax the rules, the effect of which was not seen when the firm assented to them. No time had been lost in getting the matter before the Home Secretary, but at present no definite reply had been received. He asked for a further adjournment pending the Home Secretary's reply.

Mr. Bros said he should deal with the case, and, in reply to a question, was informed by the factory inspector that, so far as his information went, no children had been employed in the room since the adjournment.

Mr. Bros imposed a penalty of 20*s.*, with 25*s.* costs.

A second summons charged the defendants with having employed Albert Took, aged 18, for a longer period than two hours and a half, and for more than five hours in any one day, in a room in which bisulphide of carbon was used.

Mr. Noldrit said that the effect of this rule would be that men would be only employed for half the usual time. This was another point under the consideration of the Home Secretary, and he pressed for an adjournment. The Treasury opposing, the case was heard.

Miss Anderson, one of the lady inspectors under the Act, gave evidence, and Took, called as a witness, admitted that the bisulphide was not used more than three days a week. The manufacture of tubes, &c., for babies' feeding-bottles was carried on in the room.

Mr. Le Breton said the occupation had been declared dangerous to health, and he did not anticipate that the rules would be relaxed. The Home Secretary refused to listen to the petition until a conviction had been obtained.

In reply to Mr. Bros the defendants intimated that they could not undertake to conform to the special rules in the future.

A fine of 21s., with 4s. costs, was imposed.

Silver-wedding Celebration.

The employés of Taylor's Drug Company (Limited) were entertained on Tuesday evening by Mr. W. B. Mason (managing director) at the Leeds Institute, the occasion being the celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Mason's silver wedding. In the course of the evening Mr. Edward E. Judson (Secretary), on behalf of the staff, presented to Mr. and Mrs. Mason a silver tea-service and an illuminated address, referring at the same time to the pleasant relations existing between the employers and the staff. Mr. W. B. Mason, in responding, said that of all the presents his wife and he had received, none would be more highly prized than this gift. He had endeavoured to make the employés comfortable, and he hoped that the respect and confidence existing between himself and them would long continue. During the evening selections of vocal and instrumental music were rendered by the Blenheim Prize Choir and Mr. W. Roscoe's concert party. A cinematograph-exhibition completed the evening's pleasure.

Poisoned by Oil of Cloves.

Samuel Stephens, of Cardiff, labourer, aged 40 years, about three months ago brought home a bottle half-full of oil of cloves, which he said he had received from the manager of the brewery where he was employed. It appeared it was given him to throw away. His wife took it from him, thinking it might come in handy in making pastry. She kept the bottle on a dresser. Stephens had been discharged from his situation for drunkenness. On Monday night he took a drink from this bottle, and died soon afterwards.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Drug-contracts.

"One who was There" should at least have sent us his name and address. We certainly cannot "expose such chicanery" as he alludes to without the most exact information.

Business Changes.

Mr. Patrick McGonney, surgical-appliance manufacturer, Aston's Quay, Dublin, has purchased new premises in Henry Street, in which he will in future carry on his trade.

The new pharmacy in Upper Sackville Street, Dublin, opened by Mr. Wm. David, L.P.S.I., who has lately returned from Victoria, is not in association with that of Mr. Laird, of Limerick, as we were previously informed.

The Southampton Almanacs.—An Irish Defendant.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Dublin, last week, before Mr. Justice Kenny, an application was made on behalf of Messrs. Anderson & McCrea, druggists, Hill Street, Newry, to have remitted to the Newry Sessions an action brought against them by the South of England Printing and Publishing Company to recover 167. 8s., balance of a printing account amounting to 45l. Defendants alleged that only half the amount claimed was due to the plaintiffs, and they had tendered that amount in full satisfaction of the claim. There was no appearance for plaintiffs, and the case was accordingly remitted.

A Compounder.

In the Belfast Bankruptcy Court, last week, in the affair of William Moss, wholesale druggist, Roe Street, Cliftonville, an offer of 7s. 6d. in the pound was accepted.

Medicine-contracts.

The Lisburn Guardians have given their contract to Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited), of Belfast.

The yearly contract for the supply of medicines to the Larne Union has been given to Messrs. Clarke & Co., Belfast.

The Armagh contract was for medicines and medical and surgical appliances for three years ending September 29, 1901. Eleven tenders were received from firms in Belfast, Dublin, Cork, Sligo, and Dungannon. The tender of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, was accepted.

The Waterford Guardians have awarded their medicine-contract to Messrs. Hunt & Co., of Dublin. The Clerk said Dr. Conolly had extracted from the prescribed list twenty or thirty articles in general use, and Messrs. Hunt's prices for these came to 19s. 10d., while the quotations in the other tender—that of Mr. T. O'Sullivan, of the Quay, Waterford—came to 1l. 3s. 5d. There was a good deal of opposition, and one of the Guardians said Hunts quoted 2s. per gal. for cod-liver oil though it could not be bought in London for less than 4s. 9d. The Clerk said they would see that the quality of the medicines was kept up to the highest level.

Dundalk Pharmacy Remodelled.

Messrs. Backhouse, Dundalk, have just completed the remodelling of their dispensing and compounding department. Every provision seems to have been made for the comfort of customers and convenience of the assistants. The work was carried out by Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, Hanover Street, Liverpool.

Fatality at a Mineral-water Factory.

Last week at Waterford, on the premises of Mr. Michael Sullivan, mineral-water manufacturer, an employé had occasion to examine a plug at the bottom of an empty vat. Not reappearing after some time, search was made, and he was discovered lying in the vat insensible. Another man went down, but he too was overcome by the carbonic-acid gas. Two other men then went down, and succeeded at the risk of their lives in rescuing the unconscious men, the first of whom died after reaching the top of the vat. An inquest was held on the body, and a verdict of death from carbonic-acid gas poisoning was returned by the Coroner's jury, who added a rider that sufficient precaution had not apparently been taken to flush the vat before allowing anyone to enter it. They recommended the rescuers to the Royal Humane Society's consideration.

An Open Mind at Carrickmacross.

The Carrickmacross Guardians have had before them the question of employing McGovern, the Cavan "dog-doctor," in any future cases of hydrophobia occurring in the Union. The Chairman said it was useless to try and move the Local Government Board, as McGovern not being a legally-qualified medical practitioner, his "hospital" was not recognised by the authorities, and the Newry Guardians had burned their fingers in the matter. It was asserted that McGovern's treatment of dog-bite never failed, and that the record of the Pasteur Institute was one of failure. Besides, the Cavan cured charged only as many shillings as it cost pounds to send a patient to Paris. A resolution was adopted expressing confidence in the McGovern system.

The Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association

is now entering on its third year's work, and, judging by appearances, its personnel is satisfactory and its position assured. The opening meeting for the ensuing winter session will be held in the course of a few days, when new office-bearers will be elected. The Association is minus a President, in consequence of the recent departure of Mr. W. J. Hardy from Dublin to Belfast. Mr. W. Vincent Johnston, M.P.S.I., having opened business on his own account, the Honorary Secretoryship of the Assistants' Association at Dublin will, it is understood, be vacated by that gentleman, and Mr. W. J. Dunwoody, joint Honorary Secretary, has also left the city for Monaghan. All these places will have to be filled by new comers.

Scotch News.

A Wedding Party.

On September 23 the employés of Messrs. Raimes, Clark & Co., Edinburgh, held their annual social and dance in Lodge Trafalgar Hall, Leith. Mr. W. A. Davies presided, having Mrs. Clark on his right and Mr. Clark on his left, Messrs. G. Radford and W. J. B. Halley being croupiers. After tea Mr. Davies welcomed the large company, and expressed the pleasure all felt at having Mr. and Mrs. Clark present. Thereafter a capital programme of music and song was carried through, all the performers being members of the staff or their wives or daughters. The mandoline duet by Misses Davies and Halley, and the cultured singing of Miss Coates, were much appreciated. The comic songs of Messrs. Donaldson ("Graham Courtney") and Hunter caused great amusement. Among the other performers were Messrs. Cunningham, Davidson, J. H. Davies, and J. P. Gibb, Mrs. Jamieson, and Misses Amos, G. Davison, and Hughson. During an interval in the programme a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Clark from the employés on the occasion of their marriage. This took the form of a massive silver loving-cup on an ebony plinth, a replica of one presented to Sir Andrew McDonald, ex-Lord Provost of Edin-



burgh. Mr. W. A. Davies made the presentation in felicitous terms, and in the name of the staff wished Mr. and Mrs. Clark long life, health, and prosperity. Mr. Clark, in thanking the employés for their very handsome gift, referred to the loyal manner in which they served the firm, and hoped the same cordial relations would always subsist between them. Dancing was subsequently engaged in by seventy couples, and kept up till 4.30 A.M. The cup, which was manufactured by Mr. James Aitchison, of Edinburgh, is in the style of the early part of the seventeenth century, and closely reproduces the form then in fashion, a fine example of which may be found in the pair of small cups, bearing the date-mark 1682, the property of George Heriot's Hospital, and now in the keeping of the Lord Provost, as Chairman of the Governors. The cup stands 7½ inches high. There are two shields; one bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. and Mrs. Clark on the occasion of their marriage by the employés of Messrs. Raimes, Clark & Co., Edinburgh, August 24, 1898." The other shield is engraved with Mr. Clark's monogram.

Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club.

The last of the series of 50 yards swimming handicaps was brought off in Dalry Baths on September 26, when the competitors finished in the following order:—1, G. H. C. Rowland; 2, J. Grieve; 3, A. G. Paterson; 4, J. Lockerbie; 5, L. S. Lamb. The prize-winners in the competition (four races) being: 1, G. H. C. Rowland, 15 points; 2 and 3, J. Grieve and L. S. Lamb, 14 points each. The tie between the two latter will be swum off on October 10.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE PENSION FUND of the Mutual Help Society of the Gironde Pharmacists is shown in the last balance-sheet to be in a very satisfactory condition. The membership numbers 243, and the amount in hand is 121,274f. (4,850l.). This Society exists for the purpose of giving financial aid to its necessitous members, and also for providing pensions.

GERANIATED FORMOL is a specific recommended by MM. Marion and André for arresting toothache and in dental operations. The preparation is made by adding 20 per cent. of oil of geranium to a solution of commercial formal—viz., 40 per cent. of formaldehyde in alcohol at 176° F. This preparation has a pleasant odour, and is an excellent analgesic and antiseptic.

CUTTING PHARMACY.—The allegations against a cutting chemist referred to in the *C. & D.* of September 10 took a new development last Sunday night, when the incriminated pharmacien and his wife assaulted the recent purchaser of his business, who has lodged a complaint against him for fraud. Umbrellas and a stick were the weapons used. Both parties have applied for summonses.

RISKY HAIR-DYE.—Dr. Fournier, of the St. Louis Hospital, Paris, reports that a number of cases have recently come under his notice of inflammation of the skin, appearing principally on the face, due to the use of a dye for turning the hair black. The dye is sold under a variety of names by different hairdressers, but appears to be composed of hydrogen peroxide and a weak solution of hydrochloride of paraphenylenediamine.

A SERIOUS FIRE broke out last Tuesday morning at 5 o'clock on the premises of G. Coutela & Cie., wholesale druggists, rue des Francs Bourgeois, Paris. The firemen got to work with remarkable celerity, and quickly had fifteen hoses at work on the flames, for it was well known that there was a highly-inflammable stock in the basement of the warehouse. It took two hours to get the conflagration under, and at one time it looked as though it might become very serious. On Tuesday night the fire broke out again with great intensity. Fortunately three firemen were in attendance, but it took half an hour's work with a fire-engine to get the flames under again.

"RIGHT AND DUTY" is the heading of an article in *La Fronde*, a Paris daily newspaper edited and managed by women, on the subject of a pharmacist at Neuilly-sur-Seine, who, it is stated, declined to allow an injured boy to be brought into his pharmacy, and when taken to task on the subject explained that he acted within his rights. The lady editor says, in the course of her remarks:—"A draper or grocer is certainly free to object to an injured or dying person being brought into his shop. Pharmacy is also a trade, but it is as special, definite, and limited as medicine. It cannot, therefore, be admitted that an individual who keeps open shop on the public thoroughfare with a supply of balsams, ointments, and other preparations for which he can charge half a crown when the cost may be only twopence-halfpenny, can refuse assistance when it is needed."

THEY WILL CUT.—It is reported from Grenoble that the Reverend Fathers of the Grande Chartreuse Monastery have tried an anti-cutting arrangement with the pharmaciens of that town which has failed. The "Grande Chartreuse Elixir" is made at the monastery, and the Fathers thought its sale would be extended if confided to pharmaciens. Consequently, they commenced by offering those of Grenoble 25 per cent. on the express condition that the elixir should only be sold at the marked prices; grocers and others were allowed 10 per cent. But within a week some of the pharmaciens who had accepted the arrangement were found selling the bottles at cost price. The result is that the extra commission of 15 per cent. to pharmaciens has been withdrawn, and a uniform discount of 10 per cent. to all retailers takes its place.

PALM OIL valued at 4,200l. was exported from Togoland during 1897.

Colonial and Foreign News.

A NEW START.—Mr. John Brown is to open a pharmacy at Ootacamund, Madras Presidency.

AT THEFT.—For stealing a box of Cuticura soap from the Colombo Apothecaries' Company, James Appu, a native, was convicted and sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

ESSENTIAL OILS DESTROYED.—It was estimated that \$30,000 worth of essential oils were destroyed in a fire which occurred on the premises of Leerburger Brothers, 54 Beekman Street, New York, on September 12. The fumes of the burning oils struck down fifteen firemen who at different times tried to get to the cellar where the fire was raging. They all recovered.

DRUG-HABIT IN PRUSSIA.—The morphia mania, according to recent statistics, seems largely on the increase in Prussia. In one year 135 deaths took place—80 men and 55 women. Of the men, 20 were doctors, 2 chemists, and 2 hospital attendants, and all were between 30 and 40 years of age. The statistician adds that a number of these unfortunate persons were also "cocainistes."

BELGIAN EXCISE-DUTY.—A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Brussels enclosing copy of decree dated August 2, by which the deduction in the Excise-duty allowed by Article V., chapter 2, of the law in question to spirits or alcohols of home manufacture for loss on rectification when intended for home consumption is now extended to such spirits when declared for export.

HIGHER CUSTOMS DUTIES IN ARGENTINA.—The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office a copy of a telegram from her Majesty's representative at Buenos Ayres, stating that a law increasing the Customs duties leviable on goods imported into the Argentine Republic came into force on September 23. The duties on all articles paying up to 5 per cent. *ad valorem* have been doubled, and on goods paying over 5 per cent. an additional 10 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied. Specific duties have been increased by 10 per cent. on the values assessed by the Customs tariff.

NEW REMEDIES IN GERMANY.—A general meeting of the Society which looks after the interests of chemical-manufacturers in Germany and the German chemical-trade was held at Stuttgart on September 16 and 17. Amongst the subjects discussed was the impending enactment dealing with trade in medicines, which is to decide as to whether, and under what conditions, new remedies shall be exclusively in the hands of apothekers, and a committee, consisting of Dr. Böttinger (Elberfeld), Dr. Kolbe (Radebeul), Professor Laubenheimer (Höchst), Dr. Merck (Darmstadt), and Dr. Rumpf (Frankfurt), was appointed to look after the interests of the Verein in this matter.

CANADA'S NEW TRADE.—The exports of goods to Canada from Great Britain in August, the first month under the British Preferential tariff, have not yet been published, but judging from the Customs duties collected in Canada during that period a large increase in trade has taken place, the figures being \$2,119,198, as compared with \$1,746,359 in the same month of the previous year. The returns from Montreal, at which most of the imports from Great Britain are entered, show a gain of \$123,721. The increase is the more remarkable because of the heavy importations in July, in which month continental goods obtained a reduction of 25 per cent. off the duties, which, however, was discontinued on the termination of the Belgian and German treaties on July 31.

NATAL ANALYST'S REPORT.—Mr. Neville, the Natal Government Analyst, who is also the Government Astronomer, has issued his first annual report. It covers a period of seven months, during which time 153 analyses have been made. There are departments for the examination of soil and farm-stuffs, and mining, Excise, toxicological, and general divisions. Mr. Neville points out that the cases of suspected poisonings often present difficulties owing to the use of native poisons unknown to science. He gives also an instance of a case where a large dose of an *Aroidea* had been given and caused death, due, he thought, to the fact that the drug is liable at times to become highly poisonous, owing to the formation

under certain conditions of a highly volatile poison. A caution regarding the presence of bacteria in water is contained in the report, it being pointed out that bacteria exist normally in water; and Mr. Neville also draws attention to the fact that water sent on long journeys for analysis may be considerably altered in character by the constant agitation it receives.

A DRUGGIST'S ASSISTANT HANGED.—Wm. J. Hammond, formerly a drug-clerk at Bracebridge, Ontario, was hanged in that town on September 15 for the murder of his wife. He had insured her life for \$5,000, and some time after she was found in the snow in the street, and it was stated that she died from prussic-acid poisoning. Hammond had bought some of the poison not long before, and could not explain what he did with it. The defence was that the woman had committed suicide. Hammond was tried for his crime three times. On the first occasion the jury disagreed; on the second, after he had been sentenced, an informality in the evidence was discovered, the Judge having admitted the evidence given by the prisoner at the coroner's inquest. The last trial ended on May 28 last, the long respite between the sentence and the execution having been in accordance with the Judge's orders.

SACCHARIN IN GERMANY.—The law relating to the trade in saccharin in Germany will come into force on October 1. This law declares the use of saccharin in the preparation of food-stuffs to be adulteration. It will have great influence on the production of beer and wine, the employment of saccharin being forbidden by it. Fallberg's saccharin is meant by the law. Although protected by patent, this same product is manufactured under different names by three German, one French, one English, and one Swiss firm. That other firms are able to manufacture saccharin, although protected by patent, is owing to the fact that the German Patent Office does not protect the final product, but the method of manufacture. The *Phar. Zeit.*, referring to the law, says: "The prohibition is due to agrarian influences. If chemistry succeeds some day in producing a good food-stuff artificially, the same influences will probably be exercised to have it prohibited."

CHEMISTS DIFFER.—On August 13 a case of administering noxious drugs for an illegal purpose came on for hearing at the Durban District Council Court, and was adjourned till the next day in order that some pills, which it was alleged were used for the purpose, could be analysed. On the following day Mr. H. A. Puntan, chemist and analyst for the borough of Durban, submitted an analysis he had made, which was not exhaustive owing to lack of time. The pills contained, he said, two drugs which no chemist was allowed to sell without labelling "Poison." Ten drops of an oil he was instructed to look for were contained in twenty-five pills, which would be a fatal quantity. Mr. G. S. Jones, chemist, said he had examined the pills, which he found contained a volatile oil which from the smell was certainly not the one stated. Sulphate of iron was the only component he could say was present. He could not call the pills noxious. The case ended in the discharge of the prisoner.

DUTIES ON ACETIC ACID IN NEW ZEALAND.—The N.Z. *Trade Review* calls attention to the anomaly in the tariff-rates on acetic acid. Glacial acetic acid is charged at 20 per cent., but acetic acid, not otherwise enumerated, containing not more than 30 per cent. of acid, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb., and for every additional 10 per cent. of acidity, or fraction thereof additional, $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. Ordinary glacial acetic acid, 98 to 100 per cent., is quoted in London at 38s. 9d. per cwt.—about $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. At 20-per-cent. duty, even supposing the acid cost the importer 6d. per lb., delivered in the colony, the duty would be under $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ whereas, at the duty on ordinary acetic acid, it would be liable to a duty of 5d. per lb. The question as to what was glacial acetic acid naturally came up for the decision of the Commissioner, who decided that the standard must be that of the B.P. So that acid which has been ordered as glacial acetic acid, B.P., has been tested by the Customs authorities and declared not to correspond with the definition, and the rate of 5d. per lb. has been exacted. Thus, if the acidity is equal to 95 per cent., the Commissioner charges 5d. per lb. If it rises to 99 per cent.—the B.P. test—the duty (20 per cent.) will be 1d. or $1\frac{1}{2}d.$

Pharmacy in the Transvaal.

THE regulations of pharmacy in the South African Republic have called forth a timely protest in the Johannesburg *Star*. Chemists in business there, especially Britishers, have long complained of the inadequacy of the present Medical Act, passed in 1886, which, says the *Star*, "stands out

applecart of the Colossus by invading the State in defiance of medical use and wont. The major is ambitious to have the examining of would-be chemists, and the latter fondly trust that if he gets the job he will not let memories of the past and gone raid interfere with his judgment of the Utlander's capabilities as a drug-dispenser. Otherwise they wish him every success, and long life and prosperity." This chaff notwithstanding, Mr. von Klonowsky is well liked by his *confrères*, and they feel that their interests are safe in his hands.



prominently as a brilliant example of the utter incapacity of the authors to deal with the subject." It has been unworkable from the outset so far as restriction upon the sale of poisons by unqualified persons is concerned. Upon this matter the *Star* waxes eloquent, and tells once more the tale of the man who failing to pass the chemists' examination in Pretoria, went to the Orange Free State (whose pharmacy certificate was accepted in the Transvaal), and, with cigars and good dinners, became so friendly with the Board that when he appeared before them as an examinee they were astonished at what he knew. Indeed, it is on record that they went into ecstasies with his pat replies to questions. For example:—

Q. What is ipecacuanha? *A.* It's stuff for kids, y' know.

Q. What are the properties of arsenic? *A.* It's a poison.

Q. Where does beeswax come from? *A.* The yellow stuff that comes from bees.

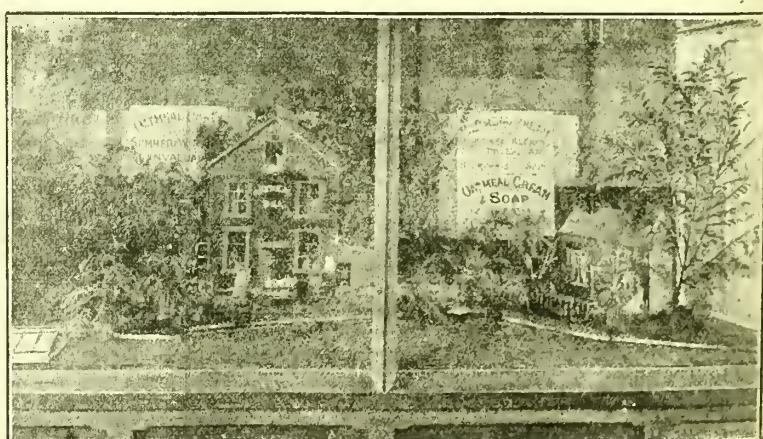
He promptly returned to Johannesburg with his certificate, posted it to Pretoria, where it was accepted in lieu of the examination he had so often failed to pass, and so he blossomed into an apotheker. Others took the same way of doing it. What the drug-trade wants now is to get the poisons clauses of the Medical Act worked more energetically; but the common opinion is that a new law is required. There is now a vacancy on the Examining Board at Pretoria, which consists of Drs. G. B. Messum, G. W. S. Lingbeek, J. W. Stroud, and J. B. Knobel. In order to promote pharmaceutical interests the Pharmaceutical Society of S.A.R. recently petitioned the President and Executive Council to appoint Mr. von Klonowsky, of Krugersdorp (Vice-President of the Society) to the vacancy, and druggists await the result of the petition with interest. The *Star* says: "Major Klonowsky took a prominent part in the Boer manœuvres when the belligerent medical filibuster upset the

MORPHINE, COCAINE, and similar poisons are only obtainable in the Transvaal on production of an order bearing a Landrost's signature, and any druggist violating this law is liable to a fine. "Generally speaking, chemists and druggists are not just now doing a particularly brisk business. People can't afford to get sick, and many that do can't afford to get cured." So says a local pressman in a recent note. Certainly business is in a stagnant state, but the hopes for the future are strong.

A FINE PHARMACY

has recently been opened by Mr. J. A. Dinwoodie at 71 Bree Street, Johannesburg. The premises give good scope for a window-display. In one window has recently been shown a working model of a Scotch oatmeal-mill and surroundings. The model was entirely made by a Zulu employé of Mr. Dinwoodie's. The mill-wheel was driven by a stream of water running from a tree-covered lade, and afterwards went through two ponds, under bridges, over rocks, &c., eventually reascending to

the lade-dam by a small pump driven by the mill-wheel. The display attracted much attention, and made an excellent advertisement for the oatmeal-cream soap. The interior of the pharmacy is handsomely furnished with fixtures and fittings supplied by Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb. It is one of the prettiest drug-stores in Johannesburg. Mr. Dinwoodie is a Minor man who hails from North Britain, but had good experience in London before going out to South Africa. He has laid out a lot of money on the pharmacy, but



ONE OF MR. DINWOODIE'S WINDOWS.

that is exactly what the leading banks are doing with their offices just now, so it looks well for the future of the city.

OPIUM TRAFFIC.

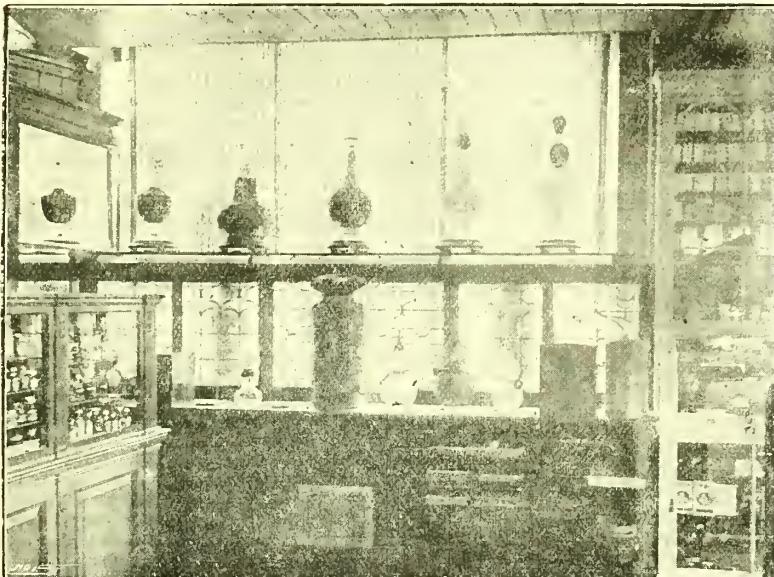
Before January 1 the price of opium per lb., when landed in Johannesburg, was about 18s., but since the imposition of the special duty it has risen to about 25s. per lb., and China men have taken to importing it in wholesale quantities.

New Styles of Shop-fitting.

TWO years ago Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb secured a long lease of property contiguous to their warehouse in Bartholomew Close, E.C., and thereon they have built

one learns that Mr. Aston Webb, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., the well-known architect whom the Government have retained to build a new War Office, designed the fittings—the whole of which have been made at the E. S. & Co.'s cabinet-works in Liverpool. The far end of the showroom is fitted up as a pharmacy. The first picture which we give is a bit of it. Observe the lead-work window-screen. This work is reviving as a pharmacy-decoration, and it deserves to, because it gives the warm touch in winter and the cool one in summer which are wanted. The pharmacy is like others which have been turned out of the Liverpool cabinet-works—an artistic structure in oak, with everything in it that a chemist and druggist wants. There it stands until it strikes the fancy of someone who wants to buy, when another will take its place.

All the showcases round the room are perfectly new designs by Mr. Aston Webb. He has, it will be observed, successfully applied the Sheraton style to druggists' shop-fittings. The curves at the top subdue the harshness of the oblong glass; but for prettiness the cases with a central circle are the best. The idea of having the showroom fitted with different styles of showcases is bound to be appreciated by chemists who



CORNER OF THE PHARMACY, SHOWING A LEADED-GLASS WINDOW-SCREEN.

another warehouse, which adds to but makes one with the older premises. One of our staff had an opportunity of walking over the whole place the other day, and he was surprised to see how much the extension has relieved matters. Thus, there is a suite of private offices for head clerks and their assistants, dictation-rooms, and the like—all new. Hawley's counter-adjuncts also get increased space, with room to grow. It is a good hall, well lighted, well heated, bright and cheery, that is reserved for the women who pack these popular counter-lines. There are three hundred distinct Hawley specialities, and the sale of them (which is confined to chemists) is growing weekly. Right up to the roof from the busy export-department in the basement went our representative with Mr. Lescher, jun. The walk was a revelation of what distribution means in the drug-trade. It is distribution solely that these extensive floors are used for, because the firm do all their manufacturing in Liverpool, bring the products up to London in bulk, and pack in the usual way. Hence there is a dryness and orderliness about the place almost foreign to drug-houses.

The relief afforded by the extension has enabled Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb to carry out an idea which they have long thought of—viz., furnishing a thoroughly good showroom. This room is in the front premises, facing Bartholomew Close. It is 45 feet long and 25 wide, and is lighted well by three large windows looking over the Close. Justice, in words or in pictures, is difficult to meet out to this room. There are in it many examples of tasteful design in cabinet-making, the marvel of which ceases to be surprising when

one learns that Mr. Aston Webb, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., the well-known architect whom the Government have retained to build a new War Office, designed the fittings—the whole of which have been made at the E. S. & Co.'s cabinet-works in Liverpool. The far end of the showroom is fitted up as a pharmacy. The first picture which we give is a bit of it. Observe the lead-work window-screen. This work is reviving as a pharmacy-decoration, and it deserves to, because it gives the warm touch in winter and the cool one in summer which are wanted. The pharmacy is like others which have been turned out of the Liverpool cabinet-works—an artistic structure in oak, with everything in it that a chemist and druggist wants. There it stands until it strikes the fancy of someone who wants to buy, when another will take its place.

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WEST END OF THE SHOWROOM, WITH WALL-CASES FOR A PHARMACY.

bottles, surgical instruments, &c. A large case in the centre of the showroom is devoted to *materia medica* and galenicals—everything taken straight out of stock. Some are put up to show how the house sends out goods, others are in shop-rounds of different styles, so that buyers can see how they look; and from the exhibit of crude drugs one can get an

idea or two in window-dressing and showcase-utilisation. In other cases one sees shop utensils and apparatus, sundries of all kinds, perfumes, and a full show of Margerison's soaps. "Our Town Traveller" must go there some day to deal with the details; at present we simply wanted to put before the trade this general statement about the new showroom. It is one of the handsomest in the metropolis, is quite unique in conception, and chemists should not fail to see it when they are in the City. If it is a clear day they should add to the showroom the bird's-eye view of London city which is to be got from the oil-bleaching roof of the new premises.

Royal Photographic Society's Exhibition.

THE forty-third annual exhibition of the Royal Photographic Exhibition opened on Saturday, September 24, in the Gallery of the Royal Society of Painters in Water-colours, Pall Mall East, S.W., and remains open till Nov. 12. At the inauguration *soirée* on Saturday evening, Mr. Chapman Jones (Vice-President of the Society) received the five hundred ladies and gentlemen who availed themselves of the invitation. The President (the Earl of Crawford) was not present, being engaged in Scotland in connection with the celebrations which are taking place in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Crawford peerage.

The exhibits this year number some 420 photographs in addition to the lantern-slides. One of the most notable things is the almost entire absence of the gelatino-chloride print; it seems as if this style of printing has been entirely replaced as an exhibition-style by other processes. Platinum-prints are the most numerous, and these in order are followed by carbon and bromide. There is also a marked decline in the green frames which were so popular last year, the consequence being that the general appearance of the gallery is much improved. Viscount Maitland has about a dozen exhibits, his frames being noticeable for their copper labels and occasional eccentricity. There are many examples of the use of bolting-cloth or silk chiffon, either in contact-printing or enlarging, the effect produced being in the main good. One of the medalled pictures is a night-scene—"A Wet Night, Columbus Circle," by Mr. W. A. Frazer. The architectural pictures are a fine series, Mr. C. S. Baynton's "Norwich Cathedral" obtaining a medal. There are two photographs of the interior of Lincoln Cathedral, by Mr. T. H. Gash, which have a beautiful warm tone which suits the subject well. No. 308, "The Scotsman," by Mr. C. Sweet, is a fine study of a head. For a study of a girl's head (No. 329), "Polly," Miss Weil obtains a medal. A large carbon-print of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, by Elliott & Son, is technically excellent. It is a print 7 feet high, and is done on four pieces of paper, the joining being so arranged to follow the architectural features as to be scarcely noticed. The only coloured photograph—No. 419, "Still Life"—receives a medal. It is printed from three negatives; the blue print is made on ferro-prussiate paper, the other two by gum-bichromate process with transparent colours. Dr. Hall-Edwards (Birmingham) has two frames of radiographs, one of them showing bullets *in situ* in six cases of "victims of the toy-pistol." The other is a radiograph of the chest of a child, showing coins in the gullet, the coins subsequently recovered being mounted in the same frame. There are some beautiful photo-micrographs by Mr. J. T. Holden which will interest scientific pharmacists. Mr. T. Manly exhibits some examples of ozotype printing in pigment and aniline colours, which process is to be the subject of a paper before the Royal Photographic Society at a near date.

The exhibits of apparatus on the tables are not numerous, and consist chiefly of new cameras. R. & J. Beck have a new "Frena" (No. 22), and the Eastman Photographic Materials Company show fresh patterns in kodaks. The Patent Photo-concha Company exhibited their photo-concha. It is a changing bag and box intended as a portable developing-chamber. The box is fitted with celluloid windows and eye-holes, and has arrangements for adding the developer and drawing it off when necessary in daylight. Watson & Sons

are represented by a "Fram" hand-camera and Stringer's photo-micrographic apparatus; with the latter it looks as if photo-micrography would be made a pleasant pastime instead of a very uncertain process, as it is with the makeshift apparatus frequently employed.

The Photographic Salon.

THE sixth annual exhibition of the Photographic Salon, opens on Friday, September 30, at the Dudley Gallery Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, W., and will remain open until November 5. Of the whole field of photography the Photographic Salon takes but a small portion—its pictorial application as a means of expression. The promoters wish to show that photography is not merely a chemical and mechanical process, but one capable of considerable variation of expression, and we think they have succeeded very well. The walls of the gallery are tastefully decorated, and form a quiet background for the 230 pictures exhibited. The greater proportion of the pictures are "gum" prints, and, curiously enough, there is one on gelatino-chloride paper. It is difficult to single out examples among such a quantity of good work, but there are pictures shown by Crook, Craig Annan, Horsley Hinton, Viscount Maitland, George Davison, Reginald Craigie, Eustace Calland, H. P. Robinson, Cameron, Hollyer, Baron de Meyer-Watson, Demachy, and Puyo, which are well worth studying. We may add that although there is no competition or prizes to be striven for, the pictures have to pass the ordeal of a rigorous hanging-committee before they are accepted. There is much food for reflection and much enjoyment to be obtained by a careful survey of the examples of photographic art shown here. The exhibition is open from 10 to 6, also on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 7 to 10.

Business Changes.

Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section free of charge, if properly authenticated.

PARKE'S DRUG STORES (LIMITED) have opened a new branch at 52 Broadway Parade, Crouch End.

THE CASH SUPPLY STORES (LIMITED), Halifax, &c., have opened a druggist's shop at 6 Queen Street, Morecambe.

MR. C. G. RACKHAM has taken the chemist's and druggist's business carried on by Mr. A. L. Wyatt at The Parade, New Eltham, Kent.

MR. CHARLES CLEGG SMITH, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. John Sykes, chemist and druggist, Didsbury, Manchester.

MR. E. A. HEARN, of the Eclipse Glass-works, Lower Clapton, has converted his business into "Hearns (Limited)," having registered it as a company.

LEWIS & BURROWS (LIMITED) have taken over the chemist's business at 418 Brixton Road, S.W., formerly owned by Messrs. Davy & Watkins.

TAYLOR'S DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED), of 81 Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness, have purchased the stock and fixtures of Mr. Priestman, chemist, of 34 Cavendish Street, Barrow, and the whole will be transferred to their Duke Street premises.

SULPHURIC-ACID THERMOMETERS have the advantage of indicating higher and lower temperatures than alcohol and mercury thermometers. Mercury solidifies at -40°C , whilst sulphuric acid only becomes solid at -112°C . Besides, alcohol gives off vapours at a relatively low temperature, whilst sulphuric acid has not this drawback, and its expansion is absolutely proportional to the increase of temperature.

Trade Notes.

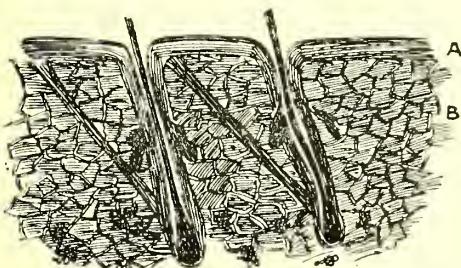
MESSRS. G. B. KENT & SONS, brushmakers, of 75 Farringdon Road, are among the London houses who are adopting motor-cars for the delivery of goods.

MR. CHARLES TURNER, F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, of the Manchester College of Pharmacy, Oxford Street, has determined in future to confine his attention to Minor students only. His next term begins on October 3.

CAPSULES PIL. FERRI, B.P.—Messrs. Davies, Gibbins & Co., of Derby, send us samples of a new capsule which they are making, each of which contains the active ingredients of two B.P. iron pills. In this form the ferrous iron is presented in an unoxidised state, and the ferrous carbonate is formed when the capsules pass the stomach. The capsules are well made and uniform.

MESSRS. EDWARD COOK & CO., the famous Stratford soap-makers, are making a notable bid for the Christmas trade in fancy soaps. They have got out twenty different styles of packages, all containing one or more of their popular brands of soap. These vary from 2s. 9d. to 16s. per dozen boxes, and there are all prices in between. Japanese baskets, with quaint figures or landscapes painted on them, and Japanese glove or handkerchief boxes are used in a good many instances, and these make particularly pretty little presents, as the packages themselves are attractive. A gentleman's *multum in parvo* package, containing a cake of toilet-soap, one of bath-soap, and one of shaving-soap, at 6s. per dozen boxes, is a cheap line. Chemists should send to Messrs. Cook & Co. for their Christmas list.

ON page 61 of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is a description of the morphology of the hair with the subjoined illustration, and on page 62 is a magnified cross-section of the hair itself. Chemists who push their own hair-preparations will find



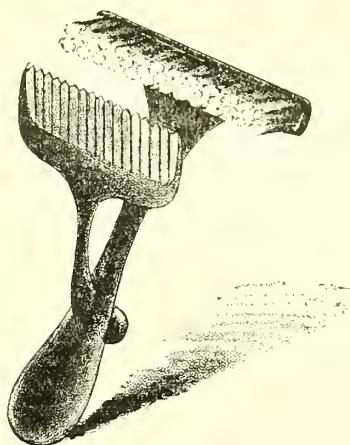
SECTION OF THE SKIN OF THE HEAD, WITH TWO HAIR FOLLICLES (slightly magnified). A, Epidermis; B, Corium.

these drawings excellent for their handbills or booklets. We supply electrotypes of the engravings at 5s. the two, carriage paid in the United Kingdom, and 5s. 6d. if sent abroad. Apply for them to the Publisher, C. & D., 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

PHARMACEUTICAL MACHINERY.—We have had an opportunity of inspecting some new pharmaceutical machinery which Messrs. James L. Hatrick & Co. (Limited), 82 Turnmill Street, E.C., are introducing to the trade. The "Colton" tablet-press is a new kind of tablet-machine. It is made in a single, triple, and quadruple form, capable of turning out one, three, or four tablets at a time, at the rate of ninety-five a minute (in the case of the single punch). The punch is fitted with a toggle-joint, which is claimed to exert a greater and more even pressure than can be obtained by any other means. The exact quantity of material necessary is supplied to the die, automatically, from a feeder at the back of the press. Each press is supplied with a set of six punches and dies for making six different-sized tablets, and the punches may also be had with any lettering on that may be desired. The single-punch press sells at 25*l.*, and is claimed by the makers to be the best and cheapest on the market. Our attention was also called to the "Colton" continuous gelatin-pill coater, an invention for coating pills with gelatin in quantity. Atmospheric pressure is used to

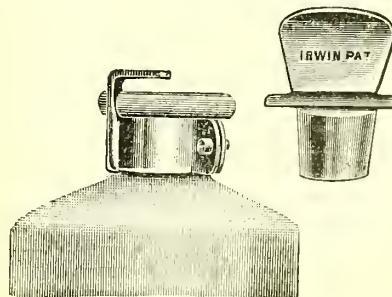
hold the pills while one half of them is being coated, and then by movements working automatically the pills are reversed and the other half coated. The "Colton" pill-cutter is another machine which possesses a wonderful capacity for rolling pills. Three-grain pills can be turned out by this machine at the rate of 125,000 per day of ten hours.

THE CRINICURE is the name given to a combination of comb and brush for applying hair-dye introduced by Gibson & Co., chemists, 19 South Clerk Street, Edinburgh. The manner of using is as follows:—Dip the brush of the crinicure into the hair-dye, merely damping the bristles; then insert the comb in the hair, and shut down the brush



and pass through the hair; wipe the comb, and repeat until the desired effect has been produced. It is a useful article for the self-application of hair-dyes, and chemists should find no difficulty in selling such an appliance when it is introduced to the notice of their hair-dye customers. The crinicure is made of vulcanite and sells at 3s.

AN ANÆSTHETIC-BOTTLE with a stopper which cannot be blown out has been invented by Mr. Irwin, 4 Cottage Grove, Bedford Road, Stockwell. The principle is simple. Upon an ordinary white-flint bottle he fixes a polished nickel collar, which has an L-catch projecting over the lip of the



bottle. A special stopper is made of nickel, accurately ground, and at the collar of this stopper is a crossbar, which slips into the catch when the stopper is turned round. For anæsthetics, such as chloroform and ether, Mr. Irwin supplies the bottles in a leather case, and they will save doctors the frequent annoyance of finding the anæsthetic lost in the surgical-bag, through expansion of the etherial liquid and forcing out of the stopper. Mr. Irwin proposes applying the idea to perfume-bottles, shop-rounds, and the like.

"THE Baker's Shop of the Near Future" is pictured in *Punch*, à propos of Crookes's B.A. address. "Professor Crumb's Chemical Bakery," "Best Nitrogen Bread," "Nitrate-of-soda Buns," "Saltpetre Scones," "Nitrogen Tea-cakes," and "Compressed-air Biscuits" are some of the tempting fare.

The Winter Session.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

AT the annual general meeting, on October 12, Mr. J. Harrison, J.P., of Sunderland, will deliver an address on "Pharmacy and Parliament." The Council of the Association will be elected at this meeting. On November 9 Mr. J. H. Hoseason will read a paper on "Standardisation Processes of the B.P.," Mr. J. Grier one on "The Pharmacy of the B.P.," and Mr. W. Kirkby a third on "The Vegetable Materia Medica of the B.P." At the December meeting Mr. J. Rymer Young, F.C.S., is to deliver an address on "The Pharmacy Act, 1898, Literally Interpreted." In January Dr. Francis J. H. Coutts will submit a paper on "Advanced Practical Work for Pharmacists." In February "Chemical Constants and Tests of the B.P." will be treated by Mr. A. W. Duncan; and at the concluding meeting, in March, Mr. Hermann Woolley, F.R.G.S., will give views and a discourse on "The Alps of the Caucasus."

Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society.

THE first meeting of the newly-elected Council of the above Society was held on Monday night, when Mr. George Squire was voted to the chair. The officers of the Society were elected as follows:—President, Mr. George Squire; Vice-Presidents, Mr. S. T. Rhoden and Mr. J. Austen; Treasurer, Mr. J. Preston; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. B. Pater; Hon. School Secretary, Mr. S. T. Rhoden; Council, the above officers and Messrs. J. T. Eardley, A. R. Fox, G. T. W. Newsome, F.C.S., G. Owen, W. Ward, F.C.S., and H. E. Ibbitt; Auditors, Messrs. R. H. Watson and J. P. Hewitt; Curator and Librarian, Mr. C. F. Carr. A good programme has been arranged for next session, including a ball early in the year, the one held last year having been an entire success.

Druggists' Parcels.

THE Bradford and District Chemists' Association has entered into a contract with the Atlas Delivery Company, White Cross Street, London, for the delivery of parcels up to 14 lbs. to its members in Bradford for the sum of 30s. per year each. A member is entitled under this contract to have one parcel per day from one house.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re J. H. J. FRYE, 73 Camden Road, N.W., Chemist.

At the London Bankruptcy Court, held on Tuesday before Mr. Registrar Hope, this bankrupt attended for public examination upon accounts showing liabilities 400*l.* 17*s.*, and assets 107*l.* Replying to Mr. E. Leadam Hough, Official Receiver, the bankrupt said he practised as a surgeon at 2A Camden Road from 1895 to September, 1897. In the last-named month he purchased a chemist's business at 73 Camden Town for 200*l.*, payable by weekly instalments of 1*l.* He had only been able to pay seven instalments, and the vendor, who claimed the balance of the purchase-price, was his principal creditor. Witness carried on the business under management, and had made considerable loss over it. He had been in difficulties for some months past, and had looked to a sale of the business as his only hope of paying the creditors. The Official Receiver asked how the bankrupt could expect to pay off all his debts by the sale of a business which was admittedly a financial failure. In reply the witness said he had thought it probable that one of the large drug-companies would have taken the shop over and fitted it up for one of their branches. There was no opposition on the part of creditors, and the examination was ordered to be concluded.

Re THOMAS ROWAN, 14 St. Mary Axe, E.C., Disinfectant Salesman.

THE first meeting of creditors in this case was held on Wednesday, at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. C. A. Pope, Assistant-Receiver.

The debtor was formerly in the employ of Jeyses (Limited), but left them in 1885, and started manufacturing on his own account in July, 1886, at Leamington. A chemical-works there manufactured for him during 1887 and 1888, and the debtor sold the goods. On November 1, 1888, he entered into an agreement with Mr. George Adley and Mr. Frederick Tolkein, of 14 St. Mary Axe, E.C., and Penton Street, Pentonville, under which those gentlemen manufactured disinfectants sold as Rowan's fluid and soaps. The trading name was the "Coal-tar Disinfecting Company." Messrs. Adley and Tolkein put the whole of the capital into the business, and bore the expenses of manufacturing, whilst the debtor bore the expenses of selling. The arrangement had been in force ever since, and had brought the debtor an income of 750*l.* a year. The debtor was also the patentee of Rowan's mantleless gas-light, which he sold in September, 1897, to a company, his interest in which he has charged to secure the debt of the petitioning creditors (Jeyses' Sanitary Compounds Company, Limited). He attributes his insolvency to the cost of an unsuccessful libel action that he instituted in 1888 against the petitioning creditors, and excess of expenditure over income, owing to illness. Accounts had been filed by the debtor, showing debts 441*l.* and assets, consisting of furniture, to the value of 250*l.* Messrs. Timbrell & Deighton attended the meeting on the debtor's behalf, and asked for an adjournment, with a view to putting forward an offer. The creditors declined to grant any further delay, and passed a resolution for Mr. B. T. Norton, chartered accountant, 9 Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., to wind up the estate in bankruptcy, assisted by the following committee of inspection—viz., Mr. Wm. Planner (Jeyses' Sanitary Compounds Company, Limited), Mr. E. H. Dudson, and Mr. T. G. Randall. The public examination of the debtor is fixed for November 8.

The following are the principal creditors, viz.:—

Unsecured.	£ s. d.
Dudson, J., Belsize Park ...	52 0 0
Jeyses' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited), Cannon Street, E.C. ...	213 0 0
Kingston, C. & J. W., Chiswick ...	18 0 0
Mr. "A," tailor, Cheapside, E.C. ...	12 10 0
Price, W., Hampstead ...	15 0 0
Randall, T. G., Hampstead ...	100 0 0
Richards, J., Hampstead ...	22 18 0

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Carter, H. W., and Wright, E. M., under the style of H. W. Carter & Co. and Carter & Wright, Bristol, manufacturers of aerated waters, syrups, and cordials.

Choot, J. N., and Wardley, T., under the style of The Red Cross Chemists' Company, Ilford, chemists and druggists.

Lockwood, J., and Holden, R. A., under the style of Lockwood, Holden & Co., Manchester, manufacturing chemists.

Shuttleworth, R. B., Shuttleworth, L. H., Shuttleworth, A., Shuttleworth, E., and Bartle, H., under the style of The Stockport Hop-bitters Company, Stockport, mineral-water manufacturers; so far as regards H. Bartle.

Stephenson, O. T., and Bruce, W. F., under the style of Doctors Stephenson & Bruce, Woolston, Southampton, surgeons and general practitioners.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

RECEIVING ORDERS.

Gledhill, Albert, Crawley, veterinary surgeon.

Tucker, Francis, late Falcon Road, Battersea, S.W., chemist.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Barry, William Joseph Murphy, Hove, doctor of medicine.

Cannings, Margaret, New Bond Street, W., matron of Ings House Nurses' Co-operation and Nursing Institute.

D'Odjardi, Edmund Savory, Silver Street and Kensington Park Road Notting Hill Gate, W., medical electrician.

Riding, Albert Charles, Docking, Norfolk, chemist.

Robertson, David, Huddersfield, doctor of medicine.

Personalities.

DR. J. WALTER LEATHER has been appointed Assistant Agricultural Chemist and Lecturer to the Government of India at the Forest School at Dehra.

MR. A. SEARL, F.C.S., has just returned from a successful business-tour of nine months round the world, undertaken in the interests of Bovril (Limited).

AT the last meeting of the Manchester Microscopical Society, Mr. Chas. Turner, Manchester College of Pharmacy, read a paper, which was illustrated by lantern-views, on "The Relationship between Plants and Rain."

DR. JAMES LEICESTER, F.I.C., F.C.S., late chief lecturer on chemistry and metallurgy at the Merchant Venturers' Technical College, Bristol, has been elected the head of the chemical department of the Municipal Technical College at Derby.

MR. KELWAY BAMBER, F.C.S., formerly of Victoria Street, S.W., has been appointed analytical agricultural chemist to the Planters' Association of Ceylon. He will live in the island at least one year, and 1,000/- has been appropriated in connection with the appointment.

A DEPUTATION from the St. Pancras Licensed Victuallers' and Beersellers' Trade Protection Society on Tuesday presented Mr. Adpar Jones, of Idris & Co., with a framed silver-gilt scroll, in recognition of his services as president of the Society's last annual dinner, held in March at the Hotel Cecil.

AN examination was held at the City School of Chemistry and Pharmacy, on Monday, September 19, for one or more scholarships entitling the successful candidate to free tuition at the school. As a result of this examination the Principal has decided to divide the scholarship awarded between Messrs. H. Bristow and T. W. Prosser, who were bracketed equal by the examiners. The awarding of the second has been deferred.

MR. CHARLES EMILE DOHME, of Baltimore, the new President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, was born in Germany on March 12, 1843, and went to the United States with his parents when only 9 years old. He had his early education in the public schools of Baltimore, and gained his degree of Graduate of Pharmacy from the Maryland College of Pharmacy, of which he is now the President. In 1858 he entered the retail drug-business as an apprentice of Mr. A. P. Sharp, and in 1868 he and Mr. Sharp became partners, constituting the firm of Sharp & Dohme. Here he is now associated with his brother, Mr. Louis Dohme.

COLONEL PROBYN, L.C.C. (Messrs. Hooper & Co., Pall Mall, S.W.), was sworn in Sheriff of London on Wednesday. On the previous day a number of his friends assembled in the Old Council Chamber at the Guildhall for the purpose of presenting him with his shrieval chain and badge. Mr. H. S. Foster, M.P., the Master of the Pattenmakers' Company (of which Colonel Probyn is a Past Master), presided. The Chairman, in making the presentation, alluded to the fact that he was associated with Colonel Probyn many years ago as a member of the School Board for London, while the Sheriff-elect was also a member of the first London County Council. The Chairman, in referring to the fact that Colonel Probyn had had placed upon his shoulders the chain of the office of Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England, said that office and the position of Sheriff were both associated with traditions of great liberality and charity. Colonel Probyn in acknowledging the gift, assured his friends that he would, by upholding the distinguished office to which he had been elected, merit their confidence and esteem. A portrait of Colonel Probyn by Mr. Seymour Lucas, R.A., will also be presented at an early date.

SOME interesting ruins of an old indigo-factory have been discovered on the far bank of the Nile from Atbara camp. The ruins, remarks the *Home and Colonial Mail*, show that the method of the manufacture of indigo was similar to the system employed in Bengal, though it was very crude. The indigo-plant grows wild in the neighbourhood.

Marriages.

BLACK—ROBERTSON.—At the Grand Hotel, Aberdeen, on September 24, by the Rev. Robert Slessor, M.A., Trinity parish, John Black, chemist and druggist, Aberdeen, to Nina, youngest daughter of the late James Smith Robertson, Aberdeen.

NEATHERCOAT—SMITH.—On September 21, at the parish church, Fletton, Huntingdonshire, Mr. H. W. Neathercoat, chemist and druggist, of 16 Denmark Hill, Campbell Green, London, to Gertrude Louise, eldest daughter of the late Mr. L. H. Smith, of Fletton.

PARK—JENNINGS.—On August 10, at Woolshed Valley, Beechwood, Victoria, Australia, by the Rev. W. J. Palamountain, William Stewart, elder son of Mr. W. S. Park, pharmaceutical chemist, late of Queen Street, Dublin, to Barbara, second daughter of Mr. W. Jennings, Woolshed Valley.

TREGILLIS—PADWICK.—On September 21, at Union Congregational Church, Brighton, Mr. Sidney Tregillis to Miss Kathleen Padwick, third daughter of Mr. John Padwick, chemist and druggist, 5 Preston Street, Brighton.

WARD—WHITE.—At All Saints', Southport, on September 22, by the Rev. Dr. Porter, Vicar of the parish, John Slinger Ward, F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, of Messrs. Hodgkinsons, Clarke & Ward, London, to Mary Eliza, only daughter of the late Mr. Charles White, C.E., of Norton, Southport, chief engineer of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

Deaths.

ADLINGTON.—On September 7 Mr. W. B. Adlington, chemist and druggist, late of 6 Weymouth Street, Portland Place, W. Aged 54.

HART.—Dr. George Hart, a Bolton practitioner, 40 years of age, died on Tuesday from blood-poisoning following the sting of some insect. The deceased was the eldest son of the late Mr. James Hart, who for nearly fifty years carried on the business of a chemist and druggist in Bolton. Dr. Hart had been in practice thirteen years.

SYMONS.—On September 21, at her residence, 7 Killarney Avenue, Dublin, Sarah Anne, widow of the late Mr. H. E. G. Symmons, chemist, Milford Haven.

WHITE.—On September 23, in London, Andrew Judson White, of New York. Aged 74. (Founder of the business of A. J. White & Co., Limited, and the introducer of Mother Seigel's syrup.)

Wills of Deceased Chemists.

BARLOW.—The will, with a codicil, of Mr. Samuel Barlow, pharmaceutical chemist, Darlington, who died on April 5, 1898, has been proved by Mr. Henry E. Barlow, the son, Mr. Jas. Allison, 23 Victoria Road, and Mr. T. W. Watson, Northumberland Street, both of Darlington. The testator's estate was sworn at 1,178*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*, of which 304*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* is net personality.

BILLINGTON.—The will of Mr. Frederick Billington chemist and druggist, Cambridge Road, Southport, who died on July 9, 1897, has been proved in London by Mr. Edwin Billington and Mrs. Mary Whittlestone, the brother and sister of the testator, whose personality was sworn at 95*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*

KAY.—The will of the late Mr. Henry Kay, 125 Bowling Old Lane, Bradford, chemist and druggist, has been proved in solemn form before the Judge (the document having been partially destroyed by fire or acid), and probate granted to testator's widow and executrix Mrs. Ann Ellen Sutcliffe Kay, by whom the personality was sworn at 1,869*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*

THOMAS.—The will, with one codicil, of Mr. Robert Thomas, chemist and druggist, Linnet Lane, Liverpool, who died on June 11, 1898, has been proved by Mrs. M. J. Thomas widow, and Mr. W. M. Kirkus, nephew of the testator, whose estate is sworn at 7,178*l.* 13*s.*, of which 4,694*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* is net personality.

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8d., 1/-, and 2/6.

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SULPHUR FUMIGATING CANDLES (Patent)
6d., 9d., and 1/- each.

PRESERVED PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN
(Patent).

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WEED DESTROYER, &c. &c.

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"A most delicious and wholesome Table Water."
PROF. W. ANKLYLE.

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Elegant Carton. Delicious Flavour. Well put up.

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(JOHN MOSS & CO.),
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Editorial Comments.

Work for the Winter.

FEW winter sessions of pharmaceutical associations begin with such good prospects as the one we are now entering upon. We do not now refer to the series of inaugural addresses which have been announced; such things are good in their way by helping to bring members of associations together, and even to tincture the work of the months to come with a definite interest, but their value is local and largely evanescent. This winter chemists' associations have something of tangible importance to turn to in the new Pharmacopœia, upon which comment and criticism has been somewhat restricted. Mr. J. C. Umney's commentary on the galenical preparations of the Pharmacopœia, which has appeared in our columns at intervals since the week after the Pharmacopœia was distributed in proof, has given the trade such an insight into the new pharmacy that it may not be possible for other pharmacists to find much additional in the way of comment to add in treating this section as a whole. Other criticisms on various parts, chiefly by experts in special departments, rather indicate that the new Pharmacopœia is far above criticism compared to its predecessor. There were circumstances connected with the publication of the 1885 Pharmacopœia which unquestionably favoured criticism. Pharmacists had had no direct voice in revising it, and were conscious when they took it up that they had tried to get a hand in its revision and had failed. This tended to combativeness. Then the book appeared about six weeks before the winter session of 1885 commenced, and Mr. Charles Umney, at Bloomsbury Square, opened a discussion which helped to give a keynote to the country. The almost virulent condemnation of the work is still fresh in our minds. Five months have elapsed since the 1898 Pharmacopœia appeared, and, saving the protests of chemists against the too comprehensive and too-general character of pharmacopœial tests, and the complaint of retailers that the book is a wholesalers' Pharmacopœia, there has been no united voice of criticism. This is not due to lack of material in the book, but to the fact that pharmacists are just beginning to know what is in it and what is

not. There is much to do in this direction, which we hope chemists' associations will assist in. The *materia medica* of the Pharmacopeia has scarcely been touched by the trade—perhaps because this is a subject upon which few care to commit themselves; yet there is scarcely a pharmacist who has not an opinion upon the exclusion of exotic aconite-root and the inclusion of any kind of henbane-leaf. In the former case we are confined to Britain for a drug which is well known to be a decaying culture on our drug-farms. In the latter case we find a drug which has been and continues a speciality of our drug-farmers practically ignored. Any-one who has compared tr. *hyoscyami* made with English biennial tops with tincture made from imported henbane appreciates the superiority of the former. Aconite and henbane form one instance of inconsistency which is suggestive of others in the same direction. Again, there is an excellent line of work for practical men in determining the ash-values of drugs. The B.P. has introduced ash-limits for less than two dozen drugs. This factor was recognised in several cases before, but upon what principle the extension has been made it is difficult to conjecture. "Squire" is strong on ash-limits, but there are more in "Squire" than in the Pharmacopeia, and although two-thirds of the new B.P. limits are in "Squire," the balance suggests independent action. Mr. J. C. Umney's table of the limits of ash will show the inadequacy of the provisions in this line:—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
Acacia gummi	... 4	Colocynthidis pulpa	... 9
Asafetida	... 10	Crocus	... 7
Cambogia	... 3	Gossypium	... 1
Capiscum	... 6	Linum contusum	... 5
Carbo ligni	... 7½	Lupulinum	... 12
Cardamomi semina	... 4	Mel depuratum	... 0·2
Carui fructus	... 8	Moschus	... 8
Caryophyllum	... 7	Podophylli resina	... 1
Catechu	... 5	Saccharum lactis	... 0·25
Chrysarobinum	... 1	Scammonium	... 3
Coccus	... 6	Succus limonis	... 3

If an ash-limit is needed for asafetida it is also required for ammoniacum, benzoin, galbanum, guaiacum, myrrh, and similar resinous products. An ash-limit for black pepper is more needful than for capsicum, and of the spices surely ginger needs inorganic limitation more than anything. Amongst drugs, araroba, cinchona, calumba, cascarilla, ipecacuanha, nux vomica, opium, rhubarb, and indeed any drug which is exhibited in powder-form, should have an ash-limit fixed for it. It is unusual for drugs to come into the market quite free from earthy matter, and a check upon this is desirable. There is work for a score of investigators during the winter. Another line which promises a rich harvest is in careful examination and proving of the characters and tests. Sufficient has already been published to show that these seem to have been constructed with little regard to the actual quality of the best medicinal chemicals. Mr. David Howard, Mr. R. Warington, and Mr. E. Merck, each renowned in his own department of chemistry, have condemned the Pharmacopeia principles of testing, and have given numerous examples of actual errors. One very flagrant instance of imperfection was pointed out at the Belfast Conference when Mr. Doran complained that commercial bismuth salicylate does not answer the B.P. alcohol and ferric-chloride test. Mr. D. Lloyd Howard replied that alcohol decomposes the salicylate. He could not give chapter and verse for his statement, but it is the fact that Depuy several years ago proved that alcohol, chloroform, and certain other solvents wash away the salicylic acid from bismuth salicylates. It was not necessary for the B.P. revisers to know this, but it is desirable that a test should be proved before it is made authoritative. From A to Z in the Pharmacopeia there are instances of tests which should be checked, and we

suggest that pharmacists themselves, aided if need be by chemists outside the trade, should thoroughly overhaul the characters and tests, and give their results for the benefit of the craft.

Dearer Drugs.

Two of our most important drugs are causing some disturbance in commercial circles at present—viz., camphor and ipecacuanha—and their future is decidedly uncertain. The

Camphor. Trade Reports during the past few weeks, and the gradual firming in prices of crude Chinese and Japanese camphor has compelled refiners—unwillingly in some cases, we believe—to advance their prices, the Germans leading by $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. on Tuesday of last week and again on Friday, the English refiners following on both occasions. As stated in our Trade Report last week, the statistical position of the article favours the advance, but it is by no means certain that this alone has induced the refiners to move; and it is claimed by some that the firm crude market exists only in talk and printers' ink, for the volume of business passing is too small to judge by. There is something to be said for that view, especially as no two dealers in crude camphor give the same reasons to justify the big advance which they expect in the near future. We hear in one quarter that the Japanese are to restrict the output in Formosa; this they have been going to do since they occupied the island, but hitherto the savages of Formosa have been wonderfully successful in restricting the action of the Japanese. There is, however, agreement upon two points as to which there is no gainsaying—first, that camphor is in a strong position in China and Japan; and, second, that supplies are coming forward slowly and in diminished bulk. Our stock of raw camphor in London is diminishing, and the imports this year are abnormally low. The declared stock at the end of August was 9,417 cases, and it is believed that the Camphor Syndicate still hold about 5,000 cases, but they are firm holders, and neither they nor others are sellers at present. What the Hamburg stock is is not known, but the fact that German refiners were on our market a few weeks ago shows that the supplies held there are also held firmly, and we observe that only 465 cases of crude camphor have been landed in Hamburg this month. All the facts go to indicate, therefore, that the crude-camphor market is likely to be a rising one for months to come. Refiners naturally fight against these conditions as long as they can, as dear crude camphor is no boon to them, and the halfpenny rises express their reluctance to how to the inevitable, but ere long, we fear, half-pennies will give way to pennies. The only

Ipecacuanha. surprising thing about the advance in ipecacuanha is the suddenness with which the Cartagena root has appreciated in value. That Rio ipecac would sooner or later bring the importers half a sovereign per lb. was expected by those who have taken the trouble to inquire into the origin of the drug. We were able, in our issue of April 30, to give some facts in regard to ipecacuanha collection in Matto Grosso, observed by a man who has spent years in the district, and who has no direct or indirect interest in ipecacuanha-business. These observations showed that the industry is on the down grade, indiarubber having drawn the root-diggers to more congenial employment. Buyers have been slow to realise this circumstance, and, in hope that imports would increase during the summer, they have kept back and have only taken hand-to-mouth supplies. The importers' brokers have been considerate the while, and although they have kept prices firm

in the neighbourhood of 9s. per lb., they have advised early purchases in anticipation of winter trade. A fortnight ago American buyers realised that the time for low prices had passed, and purchased freely, and within the last ten days German druggists (who more than anybody have said that high prices were unwarranted) also have made up their minds that there was no other way of getting ipecac. than paying the London price for it. These changed views have rushed prices up this week. The Cartagena root has increased in value by almost 30 per cent., because it is the cheapest, and there are only nine bales of it left in first hands. Rio root is approaching the importers' ideal of half a sovereign per lb.—indeed, that figure is wanted for the finest root. It must not be forgotten that this ipecacuanha-trade is well controlled. The importers of both kinds know how to handle the stuff, and they have learnt that the best way to get good prices is to give the London market bare supplies. There is, however, sufficient ipecacuanha in London to-day to soothe all the coughs that will be coughed up to Christmas, and before then further supplies will be forthcoming, and prices may be levelled down. But there will be a rise before the fall.

The Spectacle-makers' Company.



Now that there is an opening for chemists and druggists to become freemen and liverymen of the Spectacle-makers' Company through the optical-examination scheme, a few notes on the history of the Company may be acceptable.

The Livery Companies of the City of London have had to suffer a good deal of adverse criticism, much of which they have deserved; but it cannot be doubted that they have held a high rank in City history. That they did something in earlier days towards laying the foundation of British commerce by ensuring the skill of the workman and the soundness of his work can hardly be gainsaid. Nor can it be doubted that these City Companies or Guilds founded and fostered many schools and charities to which London has owed much. The Guilds, or Gilds, from which the Livery Companies sprang, have been a feature in the life of all commercial communities. The name is traced to *geld*—money or payment—and simply indicated in the first place that the Society was supported by subscription. In many cases there were guilds-merchants and craft-guilds running side by side, and often in opposition to each other. But the London Guilds are almost all, we believe, descended from the craft-guilds, and were originally associations of artisans. They came to be called livery companies on account of the distinct mode of dress assumed. Their liveries were a feature of all the civic functions and pageants of bygone days, a remnant of which remains in the annual Lord Mayor's Show. Some of the Companies have charters dating from as far back as Edward III.; others have but scanty records, many having been lost, it is said, in the Great Fire. The primary purpose of the Companies was the promotion of the interests of their own members, over whom they exercised an apparently effective superintendence, while incidentally they protected the public from fraud. They accomplished this by the exercise of the powers granted to them of seizing defective or bad work and destroying it. The records of the City contain many instances of this power being exercised: drugs, hats, clothing, groceries, and

other commodities below standard quality were not unfrequently seized and publicly burned. The interregnum between that period and the reign of the public analyst was a comfortable one for the tradesman, but was not a period in which the reputation of British manufacturers was much advanced. In regard to some of the seizures reported, a truly Gilbertian sense of humour was shown of "making the punishment fit the crime," such as compelling a vintner who sold bad wine to drink a draught of the same and then pouring the remainder over his head, and forcing a butcher who sold putrid pig to hold his nose over the fumes arising from the meat when burnt.

Having acquired the position of successful trade societies the next step of a company was to obtain legal monopolies, and as most privileges in the gift of the Plantagenet kings were obtainable for payment, there was not much difficulty about this. The charters generally gave large powers, among the privileges being that the Companies were empowered to hold land in mortmain, and could prevent anyone from practising his craft unless he joined its Guild. The decline of the powers of the Companies over their respective crafts is traceable to many causes, the chief one being perhaps the problem of capital and labour, when, as a Company became rich, it imposed restrictions on those joining the Guild, and raised the fees, so that it became the representative not of the trade, but of capital, with the result that labour developed in course of time into a separate interest. Some of the Livery Companies of the City are very wealthy; fifteen of them have over 10,000*l.* a year at their disposal. The Mercers' Company has a total income of 83,000*l.*, of which 48,000*l.* is corporate income, as distinct from trustee income. It may dispose of the former as it pleases. The Drapers' Company has a corporate income of 50,000*l.* In recent years especially these rich Companies have done a good deal to justify their existence. "The City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education" explains itself in its title. The great schools founded by the Merchant Taylors, Mercers, and Grocers are well known, and, in addition to other schools wholly or entirely supported by the Companies, large numbers of scholarships have been established, and grants made for educational purposes. There are at present twelve great Companies, and sixty-four minor Companies. The Spectacle-makers' Company comes in the latter category. This Company is among those who are making earnest efforts to regain some of their ancient usefulness. Its history is not traceable previous to the granting of its charter by Charles I. in 1629. The primary object of the Company, as stated in the charter, was "the better order, rule, and government of those using the art of spectacle-makers." There are no minute-books extant previous to 1666. An Act of Common Council, dated July 1, 1658, provided that "all persons using the trade of spectacle-makers within the City or Liberties thereof are requested to become free of this Company." Up to the end of the eighteenth century the Company exercised control over the trade "in the City and Liberties or within three miles thereof." The control vested in the Company consisted in seizing and destroying bad work. Such control is no longer exercised, though we believe the Court of the Company holds that it still possesses the power. A livery was granted by the Court of Aldermen in 1809. The number of liverymen is limited to 400, and 356 are at present enrolled. Indeed, the Spectacle-makers' Company is the second largest Company in point of number of liverymen. In 1880 there were, besides, 1,300 freemen and one honorary member. Every freeman of the Company is expected to become, and generally does become, a freeman of the City, although the charter or by-laws do not make this

an essential condition. Freemen are qualified to become liverymen by the election of the Court. The privileges acquired are social, charitable, municipal, and parliamentary; but a liveryman who has not taken the freedom of the City does not acquire a parliamentary vote for the City. The Worshipful Master of the Spectacle-makers' Company this year is the Lord Mayor (Lieut.-Col. Horatio D. Davies), the Upper Warden Mr. W. H. E. Thorneycroft, the Renter Warden Colonel Sir Reginald Hanson. Colonel T. Davies Sewell is the Clerk of the Company. The corporate income is between 500*l.* and 600*l.*, derived from a house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, bought as recently as 1877. The personal income is the interest on 3,000*l.* stock, and about 400*l.* a year from fines, fees, &c. The Company has some banners and one small silver cup, but no hall. It is also the trustee of two charities, which yield an income of 45*l.* a year, which is devoted to the benefit of the Company's poor. In donations and pensions a sum of about 220*l.* is distributed to thirty-five recipients. The Master, Wardens, and Assistants who compose the governing body or Court of the Company are paid a fee of a guinea for each attendance. The Clerk and acting beadle are paid salaries, the Clerk receiving, in addition, certain emoluments. Colonel Sewell, who so ably fills the office of Clerk, and has occupied that position for a number of years, is Clerk also to the Fannmakers' and Loriners' Companies. The fees payable on joining the Company are, including the stamp-duty, 2*l.* 10*s.* or 4*l.* 10*s.*, according to whether the person joins by "patrimony," "servitude," "redemption," or through the examination scheme. The only other necessary payment by freemen is "quarterage" (1*s.* a quarter), paid by all members. Freemen may take up the freedom of the City of London on payment of 1*l.* 1*s.*; if they become liverymen, a further payment of 22*l.* is required. The object of the examination-scheme is to advance the status and knowledge of opticians, and to re-associate with the Guild all who possess the necessary technical ability.

It may be added, in conclusion, that among the members of the Court of the Company are Dr. G. Lindsay Johnson, Dr. H. Trentham Maw, Professor Silvanus P. Thompson (nominee of the Astronomer Royal), and Messrs. J. Aitchison, J. Browning, H. C. Kemp, and G. Paxton, names which are a guarantee that the scheme of the Company will be carried out in all seriousness.

CUSTOMS IMPROVING.

In the report of the Customs Commissioners for the year ending March 31, 1898, credit is claimed for the fuller details of import and export business which the Board is now giving in its annual statement of trade. Instead of lumping together a considerable amount of our business under the headings of "All other countries" and "Unenumerated articles," which in 1896 covered 15,000,000*l.* worth of imports and exports, many more precise particulars are now furnished; and as it is in these minor industries and smaller markets that the greatest chances of development occur, the change is a valuable one. We find, for instance, that in 1897 we imported (*inter alia*) the following:

Glue, size, and gelatin ...	... £440,673
Soap (not perfumed) and soap-powder	186,603

—while among goods of British manufacture exported we observe—

Aërated waters ...	... £176,914
Brushware ...	... 132,705
Crucibles ...	... 68,023
Dentists' materials (including artificial teeth) ...	... 52,877

Another matter referred to in the report is the Merchandise-marks Act, in the execution of which, we are glad to

learn, some intelligence is being introduced. The Select Committee of the House of Commons on the working of this Act, which reported in July, 1897, considered it—

"unnecessary and uncalled for by the Act to detain goods and insist upon a qualification because they are marked with English words of description, if intended for sale in this country, or with words in the language of that to which they are consigned, unless such words are calculated to deceive the purchasers in regard to the country of origin."

The Customs do not therefore now regard English trade-descriptions on foreign goods imported as direct indications that the goods are of British or Irish origin, unless they have good ground for considering that such trade-descriptions are specially designed to convey, and do in fact convey, an impression of British or Irish origin for the goods. So too, in accordance with another recommendation of the Select Committee, they have adopted the principle that no examination of goods in transit is to be made specially for the purpose of scrutinising marks. The result, partly of the operation of the Act, and partly of the more reasonable interpretation of it which the Customs officers have adopted, is that the number of detentions of foreign goods, which reached 7,666 in 1895, had fallen to 2,700 last year.

ASH-LIMITS OF DRUGS.

In a previous note we call attention to the desirability of the British Pharmacopoeia extending the determination of ash as a test of the purity of drugs, and in this connection we observe that Dr. Karl Dieterich, at a recent meeting of the German Society of Naturalists and Physicians in Düsseldorf, submitted an interesting paper showing that the percentage of ash may vary with the degree to which the drug is comminuted. For example, Alexandrian senna, in No. 8 powder, gave 12·14, No. 10 11·88, No. 11 14·12, and No. 30 21·55 per cent. of ash, while the percentage of potassium carbonate in the ash was 20·7, 19·4, 13·9, and 3·9 per cent. respectively. The number of the meshes in this instance is per centimetre. The following table of results shows how misleading estimates may be made if the operator does not recognise the fact, already emphasised in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY of the current year, page 266, that various sifted portions of a powdered drug vary in constituents:—

	Per cent. Ash		Per cent. of K ₂ CO ₃ in Ash	
	No. 8	No. 65	No. 8	No. 65
Fol. sennæ, Alex. ...	17·45	24·59	10·71	3·06
" Tinnev.	11·00	13·23	20·75	12·74
" digitalis...	7·24	11·58	46·83	22·24
" belladonnæ ...	13·85	17·36	29·40	19·98
" conii ...	12·47	14·26	36·39	31·98
" hyoscyami ...	48·82	40·37	4·18	7·34
Rad. althææ ...	7·47	8·62	17·73	14·74
" glycyrrhiz. Russ.	11·00	13·68	19·49	14·44
" rhei ...	10·05	17·77	10·70	8·05

There is another view of the matter which Dr. Dieterich presents. He says these experiments show that the use of powders in pharmacy is by no means free from objection. If a fine powder were equal to a coarse powder, or if these powders, whether coarse or fine, could replace the plant from which they are prepared, then, under all circumstances, they would have the same constituents, but if the grinder does not take the precaution to thoroughly reduce the whole of the amount of a drug taken to one specific number of powder, variation is bound to exist. There is room here for the examination of powdered drugs as found in pharmacy in this country.

CHEMISTRY & MIDWIFERY.

Mrs. E. Garrett Anderson, M.D., contributed an interesting letter to the *British Medical Journal* a fortnight since on deaths in childbirth in London and provincial hospitals, showing that the mortality is 1 in 500 under the best conditions, but very much higher all over England. This she deplored, whereupon the editor, by statistics going back to 1847, endeavoured to mitigate the suggestion of carelessness. In replying, Mrs. Anderson says, very truly, that these old-time statistics have nothing to do with present-day deaths. In these days of antiseptics, cleanliness, and good nursing the rate of mortality should be lower, but it will not be, Mrs. Anderson says, until the medical examining bodies recognise their duty in regard to this most important of medical subjects. "At present organic chemistry and physiology claim from a London University student at least one full year out of the five years' course. Practically they usually occupy much more time than this. Midwifery can be squeezed into a few weeks. At present the majority of students trust to learning midwifery by experience." To this she attributes in a measure the loss of life in childbirth, and those who know the conditions of medical practice among the working classes, and how dispensers are frequently sent out to attend to cases, will agree that there is much truth in what Mrs. Anderson says. It is largely owing to the indifferent skill of young medical practitioners in these matters that so powerful a body of skilled midwives has grown up within recent years, and the medical practitioners will have difficulty in defeating the aspirations of these women for legislative recognition.

HOMEOPATHY TO BE MODERNISED.

German homeopathic practitioners are agitated at present about a proposal to bring their principles up to date. The notion arose in Berlin, and is due, apparently, to the progress which more rational allopathy is making nowadays. One distinguished homeopath admits that though Hahnemann and his disciples experimented under better conditions than were at that time obtained by allopaths, since then the discoveries of Schwann, Pasteur, Koch, and Lister have given advantages which homeopaths have not availed themselves of. "Lister's antiseptic method," says Dr. V. Sich, of Stuttgart, "has thrown ours into the shade, and yet the local external treatment might well be supplemented by the homeopathic." This is so much of a concession; but the Berlin proposals go a great deal further—viz., to take the Hahnemann principles, re-examine them in the light of modern knowledge, and, by fresh experiment, bring them up to date. The proposals are not agreeable to a goodly section of homeopaths, who see in it the beginnings of a departure from that individuality which has brought homeopaths many privileges, and one of these opponents (Herr W. Steinmetz) declares that the changes contemplated, and the introduction of new and hitherto untested remedies not prescribed by Hahnemann, will not meet with Government approval, and that, consequently, the new Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia, which is to come out of the experiments, will fail in its object.

ALCOHOL FROM CALCIUM CARBIDE.

A U.S.A. patent (No. 626,987) has been granted for a process of manufacturing ethyl alcohol, which differs slightly from the already well-known one. It consists in decomposing calcium carbide by water to form acetylene, then subjecting the acetylene to the action of a double salt of ammonium and chromium sulphates, to form ethylene, then absorbing the ethylene by sulphuric acid, then subjecting the solution of water and hydrogen-ethyl sulphate to the temperature necessary to effect distillation of the alcohol, and finally either intermittently or continuously subjecting the solution of the reducing-agent to the action of an electric current to regenerate it with the nascent hydrogen.

The Chinese Markets.

How to Get at Them.

[In THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of January 1 was published a communication from Consul Gardner on the subject of trade in medicines in South China, in the course of which he recommended British manufacturers to push the trade thereby sending out travellers, putting up cheap proprietary medicines for specific complaints, and generally to take advantage of John Chinaman's fondness for physic. We have asked the opinion of Dr. Philip B. Cousland on the same subject. He has had many years' experience as a medical practitioner in China, knows the Chinese well, and what drugs they need.]

I COME to the subject, Dr. Cousland writes, from a stand-point differing from that of Consul Gardner. His, I take it, involves the opening of shops in the chief towns for the sale by (pharmaceutically and medically) practically untrained and ignorant men of English remedies put up in convenient and attractive forms. Something like this has been done for a considerable number of years, and, although at first confined to the Treaty ports, of late it has been considerably developed, branch shops being opened in the principal trade centres, either continuously or at such times as the Government examinations are in progress, when many thousands of students crowd into the cities. When this latter plan is adopted a supply of drugs is left for sale during the remainder of the year in, say, a grocer's shop. I cannot say I have any desire to see this method of using our drugs further developed. With proper precautions, in the absence of trained physicians, it is all right. A good number of drugs for external and internal use could be sold with benefit, but the plan of carrying a long list of drugs—many powerful and some dangerous—for every form of disease is far from unobjectionable. A man goes into one of these shops and says he wants something for, e.g., asthma. The shopman turns up the heading "Asthma" in his book, and finds the remedy is, say, No. 191. He gets down the bottle with this number, and the customer pays for it and departs. The label contains the number, price, and directions. So you see it is pretty much a patent-medicine trade, with no check on the potency of the drugs used! Many of these drugs, I claim, should not be used in this indiscriminate way, nor should morphine be sold to cure the opium habit. Many Chinese now habitually and unknowingly take morphine thinking that they are thereby cured of this habit. From opium-smokers they have become morphine *habitués*.

To give an instance of the mistakes made: A man bought at one of these places a remedy for difficulty in micturating. He received a bottle of gonorrhœa-medicine. His trouble was phimosis, which, of course, can only be cured by the knife. By such misuse our remedies are discredited. All that Consul Gardner advocates has been done in this and other parts of China, and the firms engaged are pushing the business as fast as they can in such a conservative country, as China. It must be understood that the Chinese have no faith in any but their own drugs. The remedial properties of ours are only being slowly appreciated.

Now, the aspect of this subject that I wish to dwell upon is quite a different one. In our mission hospitals and dispensaries we take in as students, or helpers, educated young Christian Chinamen who have, for the most part, received a fairly liberal course in our own schools. These act as dispensers and dressers, while studying medicine and surgery under the direction of the doctor in charge. When they leave the hospital, after spending from five to seven years in it, they practise among their fellow countrymen, and, although their work so far has been largely the treatment of wounds, and skin-diseases, and the performance of minor surgical operations, still their use of drugs is steadily increasing, as the people are unwillingly convinced of their efficacy. This is especially true of quinine, which is now largely used inague, and is even sometimes prescribed by the practitioners of Chinese medicine.

The hospitals and dispensaries, whether established at the Treaty Ports by the European communities there, or much more widely by the various Protestant missions in China, are doing much to break down the Chinese prejudice against our

"barbarian" medical science, and the number resorting to them for treatment is yearly increasing. The Chinese acknowledge that we are a long way ahead of them in surgery, as well they may, considering they have no surgery of their own, but few yet see that it is true also in medicine. Mission hospitals and dispensaries by their work and through the partly-trained men they send out, are the great agents in the introduction of European medical science, with its use of drugs, into China. These institutions are, with scarcely an exception, either British or American, and I believe that it has been the custom for the latter to purchase their drugs in London. I doubt if this is the case to the same extent at present, as probably there are greater facilities now for importing them from America. Bottles, dispensary-requisites and surgical instruments can now be purchased in Japan much more cheaply than in Great Britain, and I have noticed that some dispensaries claim to get their drugs there, too, at less cost. Any articles I have got from Japan have been of an inferior quality, but fairly serviceable.

Our ex-students, if requiring small quantities of drugs, buy them from our dispensaries. Formerly, if they wished larger quantities, they found it hard to get them cheaply enough. The European druggists at Hong-Kong and Shanghai were much too expensive. Now, however, Chinese wholesale druggists have been established at some of the ports, and drugs can be procured at lower prices from them. I do not know where they get their supplies, but they must be imported from Europe. These Chinese druggists will probably multiply, and may seriously injure the trade of the European druggists at the chief ports, just as Chinese merchants have ousted them in other branches of trade in European articles. It will all help, however, to develop the import trade.

Then the practice of peddling medicines will increase. At present there are many Chinese in South China who, on the strength of possessing a Chinese translation of a European *materia medica* and therapeutics, buy some drugs and start out to use them. With the pretentious sign exhibited, "Western* Practice of Medicine," they frequent the market-places or open little dispensaries where they see patients. As long as they confine themselves to quinine, iron, santonine, ointments, and eye-lotions they may do more good than harm; but the sooner they are supplanted by trained practitioners the better.

To sum up, the introduction of medicines should accompany the training of Chinese in European medical science—*i.e.*, as physicians and pharmacists—and although but little is being done in that line compared with the enormous population of China, still it is taking place as fast as the growing faith of the Chinese in our remedies will allow these men to make a living.

A Chemist's View.

[Since the foregoing has been put into type we have interviewed a chemist who has had long experience in China, and his conversation throws further light upon the proprietary-medicine business in China.]

There are not many English chemists in China, but there are enough. Only men with command of plenty of capital dare to start in the land of the Celestials; for while Europeans are customers of the European pharmacies Chinese are good customers too, and the middle and upper classes recognise the superiority of Western physic, and are willing to pay for it. Good prices are obtained for proprietary articles and for all simples. The dispensing-charges are remunerative, a silver dollar being the common charge for a 6-oz. or 8-oz. mixture. There is an enormous demand for morphia, which is extensively used as a cure for the opium habit. It is said to give the desired results better than opium-smoking, and, of course, is a worse habit than the smoking. The point which is of chief interest to us, however, is the possibility of pushing the sale of proprietary medicines of Western origin amongst the general population of the country, and that our interviewee sums up in the single word "impossible." "Why?" we asked. "Because," was the reply, "the medicines of one firm who have branches in all the principal towns are universally demanded by the people. They will not take a thing which has not this firm's 'chop' (trade-

mark) upon it. They want a cure for dysentery, or stomachache, or cough, or something, and it's this particular 'chop' they'll have or none. They have a monopoly really, and at least one firm spent a quarter of a million trying to get their 'chop' in, but did not succeed." "What sort of medicines are they?" "Pills, powders, and so on, which sell at all prices from a few 'cash' up to a dollar or more. A poor man can get a cure for 5 cash—perhaps a few pills only—but they're better than a string of native physic. The cures are put up by Chinese employés of the firm." "Then you don't think Consul Gardner's proposals feasible at present?" "Not without a large expenditure of capital, hard working on the spot, good advertising, and a hard fight with the man in possession. No; the only hope for new traders in that line is new fields, and even there the favourite 'chop' is pretty sure to have first trial, for the makers know the people and the trade; in fact, they have the best end of the stick."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Council was held at 17 Bloomsbury Square on Wednesday, September 28, the President (Mr. Walter Hills) in the chair. The proposed new by-laws, which were read a first time on August 3, were submitted and read a second time and confirmed.

Chemist's Stock Sold.

ON September 27 the stock and fixtures of the late Mr. J. Cornelius, pharmaceutical chemist, Camden Road, N.W., were sold by auction by order of the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy. Some of the lots offered fetched very little, but the goods were not by any means in the best condition.

Lot 18. A pair of elegantly shaped long-necked show-bottles and cut stoppers,

which was the auctioneer's way of describing swan-necked carboys, fetched 38s. A like sum purchased—

Lot 9. A capital mahogany brush show-case, fitted with three plate-glass shelves, enclosed by revolving ditto front, and mirror back.

Lot 19. An expensive cinema by Maw, Son & Thompson, in case, and an empty case,

made 3s.

The stock of drugs was sold in the shop-bottles in batches of two dozen, and fetched prices varying from 7s. to 13s. The ointment-jars, fifty altogether, made 12s. Eighty bottles containing various drugs and chemicals, realised 11s.

Lot 41. Ten puff-boxes, 6 puffs, 3 pair boot-socks, 2 chest-protectors, 2½ pairs of bath-gloves, atmospheric odorator, 4 respirators, box of aurilaves and brushes, 2 eye-caps, 2 tooth-powder boxes, 2 menthol-boxes, 3 medicine-glasses, 5 cases, eye-cup, 2 bottles of ether in case, 3 eye-drop bottles, 4 packets of plasters, box of guttapercha tooth-stopping, injector syringe, 4 wood ditto, 4 thermometers, 3 bottles of marking-ink, pocket-inhaler, and tin of mustard-plasters,

was disposed of for 3s., while—

Lot 40. Sixty-one packets of violet-powder, 5 cakes of soap, 8 bottles of vaseline, 4 bottles of bay rhum, 2 ditto of myrrh, 1 ditto of brilliantine, 8 packets of hair-beautifier, 3 ditto of Fuller's substitute, 3 camphor-balls, 12 small-tooth combs, 10 packets of face-powders, 2 packets of Bavarian malt, 3 ditto corn-plasters, 10 packets of face-powder, and two sticks of shaving-soap,

for 3s. could hardly have been a bad investment. The proceeds of the sale were well under 25l.

"EOSIUM" is a better name than krypton for the new gas. So Berthelot thinks, because the green line in its spectrum is the same length as a similar line in the Aurora Borealis.

* *I.e.*, European and American.

Legal Reports.

The Indecent Advertisements Act.

BEFORE the Croydon County Magistrates on September 24, "Madame" Fanny Maria Jarrett (38), described as a herbalist, of 65 Wandle Road, Croydon, was charged on remand, with exhibiting and distributing objectionable handbills as an advertisement in Carshalton. Mr. F. J. Williamson prosecuted on behalf of the Treasury, and Mr. G. W. Dennis was for the defence.

The facts of the case, which have already been reported, were that the defendant called at the house of a policeman and handed his wife two coloured handbills. Considering them to be of an indecent character, the policeman followed the woman and arrested her as she was handing similar bills to another person. She was carrying a bag containing a number of the bills and a quantity of pills and medicines. For the defence. Mr. Dennis said the proceedings were taken under the Indecent Advertisements Act, which became operative in 1890. Publicity was the very essence of the offence, and he contended that there was no evidence of it in this case. His client could send these circulars through the registered post without committing any offence.

Mr. Williamson said it would be an infraction of the Post Office Act.

Mr. Dennis said his second submission was that the circulars were not indecent at all, and in the next place they were delivered into the hands of married women, and not distributed broadcast to servant-girls and young people.

Mr. Williamson argued that this was just the kind of case contemplated by the Act, which was to prevent this general house-to-house distribution of objectionable bills. It came clearly under section 3, the words of which included "or thrown down the arca." That, he said, showed the spirit of the Act. As to whether the circulars were indecent or not, the Bench had seen them, and he thought they would have no difficulty in deciding that they were.

After the Magistrates had consulted in private, a fine of 40s., and 9s. costs, was imposed. The money was at once paid.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

NOTTINGHAM DISPENSING TESTED.

AT the Guildhall, Nottingham, on September 23, two charges of inaccurate dispensing were heard. The first defendant was an assistant of Messrs. Boots (Limited), who was summoned for selling to an agent of Mr. Henry Ward, inspector of nuisances for the city, a certain compounded drug, composed of potassium iodide (2 dr.) and syrup of ginger (2 oz.), made up with water to 16 oz., which was deficient to the extent of 10 per cent. in potassium iodide. Mr. H. B. Day (from the office of the Town Clerk) appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Muir Wilson, barrister, of Sheffield, represented the defendant.

Mr. Day stated that on July 19 the inspector sent an assistant into Messrs. Boots' shop, Pelham Street, with a prescription, and asked for it to be made up. The dispenser took it and prepared the medicine, and the assistant handed it to the inspector on the doorstep of the shop. He went to Mr. Greaves, the manager, and told him who he was, and went through the usual form of dividing the medicine into three parts. The public analyst certified that the sample sent to him was deficient in one of its ingredients to the extent of 10 per cent.

The purchase having been proved, Dr. Boobyer, medical officer of health for Nottingham, stated that he wrote out the prescription. He considered a deficiency of 10 per cent. in the dose might be detrimental to a patient.

By Mr. Muir Wilson: If the prescription were improperly made up, or if the iodide of potassium were not in complete solution, some part of it might have been deposited on the funnel of the vessel used for dividing the sample into parts.

Mr. Trotman, M.A., city analyst, put in his certificate showing a deficiency of 10 per cent. of potassium iodide.

Mr. Muir Wilson, in addressing the Magistrates for the defence, said he was present for the purpose of defending

the credit of Messrs. Boots (Limited) as honest traders against any suggestion of fraud. Mr. Day (interposing) mentioned that the prosecution did not cast any reflection upon the credit of Messrs. Boots, but said there had been some inaccuracy on the part of the dispenser. Mr. Muir Wilson was obliged for that admission, and went on to say that his clients employed fully qualified and capable dispensers, and took every care that their business was conducted properly. He asked that the Bench should deal with the case leniently, and if they felt that a fine was necessary he asked that it should be a small one.

The Chairman said the Bench did not think that Messrs. Boots wished to injure or prejudice the public in any way, but medicines ought to be dispensed with the utmost care, and the Bench were bound to impose a fine to show that chemists and druggists must accurately dispense prescriptions taken to them. A fine of 10s., with 10s. costs, would meet the case.

AMBROSE MIDDLETON, chemist and druggist, 18 Southwell Road, was summoned for selling a similar compound drug, which was 6 per cent deficient in potassium iodide. Mr. H. B. Day prosecuted, and Mr. Dickens defended. Mr. Dickens admitted the facts, and expressed his client's regret that these proceedings should have had to be taken. Mr. Middleton had three shops, and could not possibly attend to all of them himself, but he employed fully qualified assistants to help him. This discrepancy was due to some unaccountable mistake on the part of one of his assistants, and no one regretted it more than he did. A penalty of 10s., with 10s. costs, was imposed.

GREGORY'S POWDER.

AT the Lambeth Police Court on September 22, Henry Thos. Hines, chemist, of Lucas Road, Newington, was summoned, at the instance of the Newington Vestry, for selling Gregory's powder which was not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded by the purchaser. Inspector Selby, one of the officers of the Vestry, sent to the defendant's shop and purchased a sample of Gregory's powder. The sample was submitted to the public analyst, who certified its constituents to be as follows:—Rhubarb and ginger 36 6, magnesia 39 8, and carbonate of magnesia 23 6. A note appended to the certificate said: "According to the British Pharmacopoeia Gregory's powder should be made with magnesia, rhubarb, and ginger only, and should not contain any of the carbonate of magnesia, which is a cheaper article than the magnesia prescribed. Magnesia is magnesium oxide." The defendant explained that he had only had the business a few weeks at the time the purchase was made, and that the powder he sold was some he had taken over from the previous owner of the business. He was asked for 2 oz. of the powder, but was only able to supply 1 oz., that being all he had in stock. Mr. Sheil ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 20s. and 14s. 6d. costs.

SODA-WATER.

AT Rochdale Mr. John Butterworth was summoned for selling soda-water in which Mr. Stenhouse, borough analyst, stated there was not a single grain of soda, though there should have been 15 gr. For the defence it was stated that the soda-water was purchased by the defendant from Messrs. Samuel Tonge & Co. (Limited), Heywood. In bottling it was supplied from two taps; the solution of soda came down one from a vessel above, and, unfortunately, the person who was filling the bottles did not notice that this vessel was empty. As soon as that was discovered a number of bottles known to have been filled without the proper quantity of soda were emptied. Apparently a few which did not contain soda were sent out, and defendant must have had some of those supplied to him. It was a pure misadventure, and the fact that the sample contained no soda at all went to prove this. The Magistrates imposed a fine of 10s. 6d., and costs, and expressed a hope that the company would be more careful in future.

The Weights and Measures Act.

AT the Cullumpton Petty Sessions, on September 26, Edward Newton Hancock, chemist, of Uffculme, was summoned

by the Inspector of Weights and Measures under the Devon County Council for having in his possession for trade-purposes a quart-measure unjust and unstamped, and a weighing-machine unstamped. Defendant pleaded guilty. Inspector Sloggett stated that the measure was 2 fl. oz. deficient. Defendant was fined 7s. inclusive in each case.

New Companies & Company News.

CARGONA COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire patents for proprietary articles, foods, beverages, &c., and to buy, sell, and deal in drugs, sugar, provisions, &c.

JULIETTE PHOSPHATE MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire, explore, own, and work any lands and mines in the U.S.A., Canada, or elsewhere supposed to contain phosphates of lime or other phosphates.

ENGLISH DENTAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 50*l.*, in two shares of 20*l.* each and five shares of 2*l.* each. Objects: To develop the business of Raitt & Dunford, 109 Walton Street, Oxford, and to carry on the business of manufacturing dentists, &c. Registered without articles of association.

F. E. & G. MAUND (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of shop and office fitters carried on as "F. E. & G. Maund," at 336 Old Street, Shoreditch, 10 and 12 Hoxton Street, 131 and 133 Hoxton High Street, and at 7 Academy Buildings, Finsbury Street, Hoxton.

G. & J. RAWSTORM (LIMITED).—Capital 30,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the businesses carried on in Hull by G. & J. Rawstorm (Limited) and by Richard Barton, and to carry on the business of oil, turpentine, and resin merchants, refiners, and manufacturers. The first directors are Thomas W. Allen, R. Barton, C. D. Clayton, G. A. Holmes, W. T. Johnson, J. C. Midgley, and C. Muirhead.

SANDRONS (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by Auguste Sandron and Percy S. Boult in London, Paris, and elsewhere, and to manufacture, sell, and deal in (both wholesale and retail) patent and other medicines, drugs, remedies, and chemicals. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—Henry W. Waller, 7 Great Winchester Street, E.C., gentleman; Richard S. Hanson, 224 Fort Road, Southwark Park, S.E., gentleman; Charles M. Ware, 7 Great Winchester Street, E.C., solicitor; Herbert J. Wood, 7 Great Winchester Street, E.C., solicitor; Albert E. Deans, 60 Pellatt Grove, Wood Green, N., gentleman; Alfred T. Scott, Heathfield House, Twickenham, gentleman; and Esmond Caillard, 17 Gracechurch Street, E.C., gentleman. The first directors are Percy S. Boult (managing director) and Auguste Sandron (technical director and superintendent). Registered office, 34 Devonshire Street, Portland Place, W.

CASTNER KELLNER ALKALI COMPANY (LIMITED).—The Directors have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum for the six months ending September 30.

ANGLO-SICILIAN SULPHUR COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report of the directors for the past year shows gross profits amounting to 152,529*l.* After deducting working expenses and writing down the stocks of sulphur below cost-price, to provide against possible loss on final realisation, there remains a net profit of 90,887*l.* It is proposed to pay a further dividend for the second half of the year of 3 per cent. on the preference shares, being 6 per cent. for the year ended July 31, 1898. Of the balance, 20 per cent., or 11,316*l.*, has been credited to the capital guarantee fund, which will then amount to 13,945*l.*; 22,582*l.* has been credited to the general reserve fund, which then stands at 29,633*l.*, and the remainder, 22,685*l.*, is divisible as follows: One-tenth to the preference shareholders, or 1*d.* per share on the fully-paid shares, and $\frac{3}{4}d.$ per share on the shares on which 15*s.* have been paid, carrying forward 205*l.*, nine-tenths to the ordinary shares, or 20,416*l.*, with which the council recommend a pay-

ment of a dividend of 7*d.* per share, free of income-tax, on each ordinary shilling share.

PARKES' DRUG STORES.—On Thursday the fourth annual general meeting of Parkes' Drug Stores (Limited) was held at Winchester House. Mr. P. Warnford-Davis (Chairman), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said the past year had been eminently satisfactory. The figures spoke eloquently of the progress made. The first item, the expenses of management, had increased by 23*l.*, and for that they had been enabled to raise their business 4,020*l.*, which left nothing to complain of. Of course that particular item would always fluctuate. The profit balance was 1,772*l.* above that of the previous year. That might have been considerably swollen if it were not that for prudential reasons they had written down a number of items, such as repairing premises, &c. When they reached 1900 they would have some 700*l.* left on this item alone, which would, of course, be put in the hands of the shareholders. Last year he (the Chairman) had informed them that they would be sure of having fifteen shops opened out of the first block of capital, but this had been improved on, and when the Crouch End and Harlesden shops had been opened they would have a block of twenty shops. It had been decided to take a portion of the reserve fund out and purchase certain stocks and shares, which would be decided on later, and thus next year there would be most probably another item of profit.

The Chairman then stated how the profit was to be disposed of, the details of which were given by us from the report last week, showing that on the ordinary shares a dividend of 7*d.* per cent. would be paid for the year.

Mr. Pfungst asked if Parkes' Drug Stores were started to push Lorimer's goods?

The Chairman: No.

Mr. Pfungst, continuing, asked why they pursued the policy of advertising Lorimer's goods, which they were fast turning into specialties? He (the speaker) thought they should put up their own special articles; they were the goods on which it was well known chemists got the most profit.

The Chairman, in reply, said if all the other goods they sold bore as good a profit as those they sold of Lorimer's, they would be able to give their shareholders 16 per cent. instead of 7*d.* per cent. dividend. He thought the present satisfactory state of things should continue.

A Shareholder: What about the statement in the prospectus that each shop would show a profit of 600*l.*?

The Chairman: Give us breathing time and they will. The Chairman then referred to the issue which would shortly take place of new preference shares of 1*l.* each. As the money was not needed, though, it had been decided to only ask for 2*s. 6d.* on application and 2*s. 6d.* on allotment. The report and accounts were adopted. At an extraordinary general meeting held afterwards, a resolution was passed sanctioning a subdivision of the present 8,000 5*l.* shares to 40,000 1*l.* shares was adopted.

FINE.—For selling opium in Colombo without a licence, one J. Attock, of Stringer's Street, Black Town, was sentenced to pay a fine of 100*r.* His defence was that he only manufactured opium for his own use.

INDIAN OPium TRADE.—It is notified by the Indian Government that not more than 40,800 chests of Bengal opium will be offered for sale during 1899, and not more than 3,400 in each month, 1,950 chests in each month being Benares and 1,450 Patna opium. No reduction in these quantities will be made without three months' notice. The outturn of opium from both the Behar and Berar agencies in the season 1897-98, now over, amounted to about 82,000 maunds (1 mannd = 82*lb.*). From this quantity about 4,000 maunds will be taken for the manufacture of Excise opium for local use, partly by itself, and partly by being blended with the opium purchased at Malwa. The remainder, about 79,000 maunds, will be converted in equal proportions into provision opium for the purpose of being sold as standard Behar and Benares opium, packed in chests, each containing 1 maund 28 seers 2 chittacks (about 144 lbs.). The total number of such chests will be nearly 44,000, which, with the number held in reserve from the produce of last season, will constitute in the hands of Government on January 1, 1899, a stock of 51,000 chests.

The Irish Council Election.

WE have received a letter from Mr. McKnight, of Belfast, one of the candidates for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, but it reaches us too late to be published in full. Mr. McKnight says:—

Whilst I am in favour of prosecutions for illegal infringements of the Pharmacy Act, I object to the funds of the Society being squandered on points of law that have already been adjudicated upon, and which are for the present settled.

Mr. McKnight thinks that the Society is becoming more and more a Dublin organisation, and he says—

If elected I shall propose that the annual meetings of the Society be held alternatively in Dublin, Belfast, and Cork, followed by a dinner, at which the licentiates and members of the Society, together with the members of the drug-trade generally, may attend, thereby bringing about a more general interest.

He also thinks that—

as Hon. Local Secretary to the British Pharmaceutical Conference I may claim some consideration for the success that attended the Belfast meeting in August.

A lengthy circular has been issued by "The Irish Pharmacy Protection Association," stating that

this election is being fought solely on the question of "company pharmacy," yet the three great pioneers and champions of the limited companies—Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham, and R. W. McKnight—remain perfectly silent on this vital question.

Strong things are said against these three candidates, and Mr. R. W. McKnight is referred to as the managing director of the "Ulster Chemists (Limited)"—a company formed for the purpose of buying up huxters' shops and converting them into illegal establishments for the sale of poisons and compounding of prescriptions. His other complaints and promises are described as merely the "red herring drawn across the trail."

Votes are asked for Messrs. Grindley, Montgomery, Kelly, Wells, Tate, Michie, and Brittain.

Mr. McKnight has published a reply to this "scurrilous circular," as he terms it, which he says is a combination of misstatements, and therefore unworthy of notice. He says he is not the managing director of the Ulster Chemists (Limited). The Ulster Chemists (Limited) did not buy up a lot of huxter shops, but their amalgamation includes several of the most important pharmaceutical establishments in Belfast, Coleraine, Cookstown, Lisburn, Lurgan, &c., any of which will compare favourably with the shops belonging to the nominees of the "Irish Pharmacy Protection Association." Also he maintains that the establishments of the Ulster Chemists (Limited) are not illegal; all of them are managed by legally qualified men, and are carried on in the same style as before amalgamation, and therefore do not hurt private traders.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

Anyone who objects to the registration of a trade-mark must address the Comptroller-General, Patent Office, Chancery Lane, W.C., within a month of the date of publication.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," September 21, 1898.) Combination of devices and word "Globe"; for ready-mixed paints. By Peacock & Buchan (Limited), Southampton. 215,243.

Device (the essential particular) and wording "Guinea Gold"; for dyes, &c. By W. H. S. Taylor & Co. (Limited), Wigan' wholesale grocers. 215,276.

"SOLVOS"; for all goods in Class 2. By R. Browne, 58 Grafton Street, London, chemist. 214,765.

"SAUTULIN"; for a chemical preparation for destroying insects. By Jas. Wheeler, High Street, Ilfracombe, pharmaceutical chemist. 215,350.

- Device for sanitary preparations in Class 2. By Ch. Prevet & Cie, 48 Rue des Petites Ecuries, Paris, merchants. 215,928.
- "VALETURA"; for chemical substances for use in medicine and pharmacy. By T. H. Barmby, Scarborough, manufacturing chemist. 215,723.
- "EUPHTHALMIN"; for chemical substance for use in medicine and pharmacy. By Chemische Fabrik auf Actien (vorm. E. Schering), Berlin. 216,095.
- "CIRCUIT JUDGE"; for medicated soap and medicated glycerin for human use. By Jos. Crosfield & Sons (Limited), Warrington, soap manufacturers. 216,146.
- "MULPA"; for wood-wool and other medicated bandages. By the Sanitary Wood-Wool Company (Limited), 26 Thavies Inn, Holborn Circus, W.C., manufacturers of surgical dressings. 216,310 and 216,311.
- "FRAM"; for microscopes, &c. By W. Watson & Sons, 313 High Holborn, W.C., opticians. 216,336.
- Combination of devices, and word "Burtako"; for cream-of-tartar substitute. By Burton, Baker & Co., Southwark Street, S.E., merchants. 214,242.
- Device (the essential particular) and wording "A Meal on a Finger tip"; for prepared foods (food tablets), or dietetic preparations in Class 42, but not including tea or the like. By the Marvine Syndicate (Limited), 45 Wilson Street, London, manufacturers. 215,603.
- "ASOMROP"; for a tooth-paste. By Graham, Nevill & Co., 30 Walbrook, E.C., merchants. 215,463.
- "ALLAYRIA"; for liquid rouge for cleaning plate. By G. Fairbairn, Doonside, Ayr, manufacturer. 215,522.
- "BLUE-BELL"; for combs, brushes, &c. [By R. Hovenden & Sons, Berners Street, W., hairdressers' sundriesmen. 215,757.
- (From the "Trade Marks Journal," September 28, 1898.)
- "GRIPALENE"; for paints and varnishes. By Lawson & Co., Liverpool, manufacturing chemist. (By consent.) 215,540.
- Label, the essential particulars of which are the combination of devices, the word "ATRACOXAKINE," and facsimile of the applicant's signature; for a medicated preparation for cattle for the prevention of black leg. By A. H. Jones, Medical Hall, Doneraile, pharmaceutical chemist. 215,646.
- "ZITSHO"; for insect-destroying preparations. By A. and M. Zimmermann, St. Mary-at-Hill, E.C., chemical agents. 216,153.
- "OTELOIDS"; for all goods in Class 3. By W. Woodruff, Cheadle, Hulme, dispensing chemist. 215,309.
- Signature for a medicine; for the cure of consumption. By A. Serrys & Co., London Street, Norwich, patent-medicine manufacturers. 215,866.
- Design, with word, "KOKOR" (the essential particular); for eczema-lio. By H. C. Perry, Fetter Lane, E.C., engravers. 216,167.
- "BORO-LYPTA"; for medicated jujubes. By T. Kerfoot & Co., Ashton-under-Lyne, manufacturing pharmaceutical chemists. 216,344.
- "GLYCO"; for all goods contained in Class 5. By F. R. Putz, South Parade, Manchester, merchant. 216,047.
- Design and word, "NEST"; for condensed milk. By Henri Nestlé, 48 Cannon Street, E.C., merchants and manufacturers 213,579.
- "POLIENTA"; for prepared food for cattle. By the Polenta Manufacturing Company, Reading, merchants. 215,932.
- Device, with name (the essential particular); for glycerine. By W. Gossage & Sons (Limited), Widnes, soap manufacturers. 213,982.
- "OLLAPEARL"; for perfumery. By W. Osmond, "Merlin," Hammers Lane, Mill Hill, manager. 216,171.
- Device for furniture-cream, &c. By T. Shepperd, High Street Deritend, Birmingham, wholesale draysalter. 214,902
- "ROZOLO"; for furniture-cream. By Sutcliffe Brothers, Haslingden, cabinet-makers. 215,843.

To kill ants take a large sponge and sprinkle it well with moist or pounded loaf sugar, and set it in the vicinity of the ants' nest. The creatures soon swarm all over and in the interstices of the sponge. Throw the sponge into boiling water, and let it remain there for a few minutes. Then wash out the dead ants, sprinkle the sponge with sugar, and lay it as before. If this be persevered in for a few days, every ant will be destroyed.

Correspondence.

In writing letters for publication correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters, with Notice to or without a nom-de-plume, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer. Queries should be written on separate pieces of paper, and the regulations printed under the sections to which they apply should be strictly observed.

Elliman's Embrocation.

SIR.—Referring to our letter of last week, informing you that the statement in your issue of September 10—that the child Arthur Roberts, who died at Bedford on August 28 last, was "poisoned by Elliman's"—was absolutely untrue (for which statement we are holding your paper responsible). With the view to mitigate as far as possible the injury done, we send you at foot copy-letter we have to-day received from the two doctors who attended the child.

We are, sir,

Slough, September 29.

Your obedient servants,
ELLIMAN, SONS & CO.

(Copy.)

Bedford, September 23.

Messrs. Elliman, Sons, & Co.,
Slough.

Re ARTHUR ROBERTS, DECEASED.

GENTLEMEN.—We have to express our sincere regret that by the reports of this inquest an unfounded charge has been made against Elliman's embrocation.

We were the doctors who attended this case, and it is due to your firm to correct as far as we possibly can the statement made and repeated by several newspapers, that the death of the child Arthur Roberts, at Bedford on August 28 last, was caused by your embrocation. Such was not the fact.

The verdict of the jury at the inquest, held at the Bedford Infirmary on August 30 last, did not so find.

Dr. Small (the undersigned), who was immediately called to the child, at once took possession of the bottle (an old, small sauce-bottle, containing a home-made liniment, given by a neighbour to the child's parents) from which the child had drunk, and it has never since left his possession, and if he had been called as a witness at the inquest, or if the bottle had been produced, it would have been seen that the child had not taken Elliman's embrocation but some other preparation altogether.

Most unhappily at the inquest, owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding, it was stated that Dr. Ross (the undersigned) had been informed that the child had swallowed some of Elliman's embrocation.

This was hearsay, and, as above stated, the jury did not by their verdict find that the death was so caused.

It is only right that we should add that neither of the parents of the child in any way suggested that it was Elliman's embrocation.

So far as we are concerned, we again express our regret for the misunderstanding, and you are at full liberty to insert this explanation in such papers as you think fit.

We are, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

(Signed) S. J. ROSS,
Bedford Infirmary.

(Signed) G. S. SMALL,
Bedford.

[We inserted a letter from Messrs. Elliman, Sons & Co. in our last week's issue, in which they complained of the allegation that the death of the child, Arthur Roberts, on August 23, was the consequence of his having taken some Elliman's embrocation. This they have shown, in the letters printed above, not to have been the case at all, though it will be seen that the doctor who gave evidence at the inquest admits having mentioned, "by an unfortunate misunderstanding," that the child had swallowed some Elliman's embrocation.

We had ourselves obtained from the Coroner of Bedford a copy of the evidence taken before him, in which appears the depositions of Dr. Ross to the above effect; but the information we have obtained fully corroborates Messrs. Elliman's statements, and, taken with the letter of Drs. Ross and Small, printed above, it is almost superfluous to say that we are abundantly satisfied that the paragraph published by us in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of September 10 last was incorrect in attributing the death of the child to Elliman's embrocation. Under the circumstances, therefore, we have no hesitation in expressing our sincere regret that we should have been misled.

EDITOR OF "THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST."]

Gregory's Powder.

SIR.—As Mr. Umney has dragged my name into his paper dealing with a supposititious method of analysing Gregory's powder, I simply desire to say that no analysis could ever be considered to be worth more than the merest guesswork unless direct estimations of both magnesium and carbon dioxide be made, the direct estimations putting the proper light on the other indications. When on the subject, I may state that, as the result of thirty years' experience with Gregory's powder, I have found it to exist in the trade in three distinct qualities—viz., made with (1) all magnesia, (2) all official carbonate, or (3) roughly half and half—and I presume the price would vary accordingly, at least it ought to do so. The price must now be made universally commensurate with supplying an article made only with magnesia, B.P., of which that authority states "when heated to redness it should lose little or no weight" (thus indicating that there should be no appreciable amount either of CO_2 or moisture), and manufacturers must produce such an article and give the retailer a warranty. No analyst of experience ever interprets this standard otherwise than in a liberal spirit, and were traces of moisture and CO_2 absorbed, would never cause condemnation at his hands. Having said this, I will decline to take any further part in discussion on the subject.

Yours faithfully,

325 Kennington Road, S.E.,

September 27.

JOHN MUTER.

SIR.—Mr. J. C. Umney deserves the thanks of every retail pharmacist for his careful research upon commercial Gregory's powder.

Prior to the publication of Mr. Umney's paper, a number of samples of calcined magnesia obtained from well-known sources had been subjected to analysis by independent public analysts. The reports to hand vary considerably, one only being returned as pure calcined magnesia, in all other cases the quantity of carbonate present being from 3 to 17 per cent. Several of these reports, however, have since been proved to be fallacious, owing, doubtless, to the calcination-method being adopted in place of estimating the quantity of carbonic-acid gas generated by the respective samples.

With regard to the case in which 23.72 per cent. of carbonate was said to be present, I had reported to the firm mentioned by Mr. Umney prior to the publication of his paper that this actually consisted of 7.2 carbonate of magnesium, the remainder of the 23.72 being magnesium hydroxide.

Faithfully yours,

FREDERICK DAVIS.

The Laboratories, 49 and 51 Imperial Buildings,

Ludgate Circus, E.C.

An Ethical Question.

SIR.—It is refreshing to find anybody so cocksure of anything as "R. B." is. Perhaps he will ease my mind with regard to another question. I am far from my sins compelled to run a post-office in connection with my business. We send and receive a good many telegrams daily, and a considerable number of these are betting-telegrams. Now, I happen to believe that gambling is one of the greatest curses of our time and country, and to know that some, at least, of the people who do their betting through my office suffer gravely from both moral and worldly points of view from their indulgence in this vicious habit. I don't know that they are guilty of direct dishonesty, but—well, charity hopeth all things. Am I morally justified in carrying on the work

of an office which lends itself to such bad uses? And is "R. B."—here is another fearful thought!—is "R. B." justified in helping by his custom to keep up an institution of this kind? Perhaps he will pronounce upon this point.

Yours, &c.,

DUBITANS. (47/14.)

SIR,—I am grieved to find that we have such a man in our ranks as your correspondent "Morpheus," who for a paltry few coppers would aid the morphia-taker on to his certain destruction. "Morpheus" tries to stifle conscience by saying that "others would supply it if he did not." If others do wrong, that is no excuse for him to do likewise. Moreover, what right has "Morpheus" to make such an assertion that others would undertake so dastardly a transaction? There is an exception to his assertion in your correspondent "R. B.," who, to my way of thinking, is an honour to our calling. I shudder to think of the fate of the reclaimed morphia-taker who was a customer of "R. B." if he had been left to the merciless clutches of "Morpheus." It must be a dreadful thought to a conscientious man to know that he has helped a fellow-man to go down to certain doom!

Yours truly,

ANTI-MORPHEUS. (48/45.)

"Chemists' Window-displays.

SIR,—The above is a frequent heading in the *C. & D.*, and presumably the descriptions thereunder given of the "shows" in question are of interest to a section of the trade, or you would not open the columns of your journal to their reproduction. But has it ever occurred to you, Mr. Editor, that the lessened respect in which the public hold the trade in general may be due in a great measure to the sacrifice of self-respect shown by so-called chemists in perpetrating such vulgar monstrosities in their windows as are now widespread, in London at any rate? When a window is decorated with clockwork figures of various kinds, artificial flowers, and cardboard cattle and frogs, while possible purchasers are tempted by the "free gift" of a razor with a cake of soap, a toothbrush with a 3d. tin of powder, or a box of soap with a washing-glove, is it any wonder that the public, who, as admitted even by the Sage of Chelsea, are not all fools, prefer often to go to the drug-store department of a reputable drapery establishment rather than deal with men whose windows are, to all appearance, a "cross" between a barber's window and that of a toy-shop?

Yours faithfully,

ICHABOD. (46/52.)

The Medicine-stamp Grievance.

SIR,—Your editorial comments on the I.R. Report lead me to ask if we are treated quite fairly in this matter.

We all know it is hardly safe to sell a penny box of pills or an ounce of lozenges, let alone anything of a more ambitious nature, without one of these three-halfpenny impositions. Yet, whilst this is so, I find my baker is allowed to puff and sell his bread as being a safe remedy for all forms of indigestion, free and unfettered, whilst, if I make some of this same bread into pills and mention their value above a whisper, V.R. insists on her three-halfpence. My grocer may mix his cayenne and spices, call it sauce, and say it will cure cancer or anything else. My wine-merchant—this sounds grand, but is hardly true—may recommend his wares as making very Sandows of the happy drinkers. The draper has his anti-rheumatic flannel; the bootmaker his corn-curing shoes; the staymaker her bust-developing corsets; the soda-water man his inevitable sparkling tonic. And they are all allowed to push and puff as unblushingly as they please without V.R. requiring a penny for the privilege. Should these things be? Yours truly,

September 24.

J. R. S. (45/53.)

Wants to be Taught Prescribing.

SIR,—I am a chemist's assistant in a dispensing-business in the London suburbs, where prescribing is neither cultivated nor encouraged, but I am frequently called upon to discharge duties which necessitate a knowledge of subjects which are not included in the Minor or Major syllabus. It is scarcely necessary for me to state what these duties are. Every chemist must perform them through the nature of his circumstances—his open and easily accessible position.

Seldom a day passes but I have to bandage up someone's arm, or otherwise render first aid. Frequently, too, I am asked such questions as, "What is this medicine for? Does it affect the heart?" &c. Now, when I consider the time I have spent in studying the physiology of plant-life, &c., I cannot help feeling how much more to the advantage of the customer and myself it would have been had I devoted that time to the study of human physiology or other subjects of more practical value, and which would have given me a better moral right to undertake, and would have enabled me to discharge more efficiently, the duties I am frequently called upon to perform.

The value of education is relative to the work which the individual is called upon to perform, and I should like to know the number of volumetric estimations the average chemist performs after passing his Minor. The worst of it is (or the best of it) the public is under the impression that pharmaceutical examination carries with it qualification for the discharge of those duties which I have indicated. Why not try to justify this faith?

I do not see how any right-minded medical man could object to chemists being educated to recognise symptoms of what might prove to be a serious disorder, and thus save the patient a waste of time, and possibly his life. I remember, as a youth, giving a man a dose of sal volatile and bromide because he felt very "queer and shaky." He had typhoid fever.

Faithfully yours,

CHEMIST'S ASSISTANT. (42/67.)

Ext. Belladonnae Liq.

SIR,—The main contention in my letter of September 17th was against the employment of heat in making the above preparation, not merely on account of the caramelising—that may be the reverse of objectionable to many purchasers—but having regard to the known susceptibility of the natural alkaloid to heat, and until it is authoritatively determined whether the hyoscyamine is affected or not by boiling down a percolate by steam or water-bath.

The assertion, as a fact, that "the majority of liquid extracts (?) belladonnae) supplied by wholesale houses are half as dark again as that yielded by the P.B. process" only tends to show that they are not what they pretend to be, but, as an argument in favour of the evaporated preparation, it is a case of *petitio principii*. As to the separation of resin, I can only say that it did occur on the particular occasion when I tried it, but, of course it may have been exceptional, the proportion of resin in different samples of root being variable; and so the quantity of water in the residues would vary the more the water is evaporated, so much the worse for the hyoscyamine. No addition of the 80-per-cent. menstruum would restore the alcoholic strength of an aqueous concentrate. Mr. Bryant's investigation of the B.P. process is most instructive; but if I might venture a further criticism, it would be that the quantity of percolate "reserved" should be at least double.

Comparing results as follows the figures may be regarded as either fl. drachms from 8 oz. } of root.
or as c.c.'s from 64 grammes }

Process	C. & D.	Reserved	Concentrated and Menstruum	Added Menstruum	Product
B.P. ...	May 7	25	—	10½	35½
J.J.B. ...	May 7	12	12	20½	44½
J.P.C. ...	August 13	42	—	3	45

It would be interesting to make comparative trials of the last two methods on the same sample of powder. The principle of the B.P. process may be adhered to without necessarily being wasteful, and I think the unpopularity of the official process among manufacturers is not a little due to the time and personal attention required. The automatic percolator was designed to obviate this, and it may be adapted to kilos, as well as to grammes. Yours faithfully,

Liverpool School of Pharmacy, JOHN P. CATFORD.
September 22.

Dispensing Notes.

This section is intended for the elucidation of dispensing difficulties. Subscribers and their employees may contribute to it, criticising any of the following notes or contributing notes on prescriptions which they have found to be of unusual interest.

Who can Read this?

This is a reduced facsimile of a doctor's prescription

which should be a good exercise for those who have the time to send us postcard renderings.

The Borax and Mucilage Mixture.

SIR,—I have read with deep interest all the letters respecting the above, but until now could get no enlightenment on the subject. I have made the mixture as recommended by each of your correspondents, and yet without satisfactory results until Saturday last, and not until then did I find out the reason of my failing to get a presentable mixture. To my mind the whole thing has resolved itself into a very simple explanation—viz., in the case of the above mixture, the better quality of gum used in making the mucilage the worse the result, and the commoner quality of gum yields the best mixture as regards making it presentable for administration. I send you herewith two 4-oz. mixtures for your inspection: the one a "jelly" made with mucilage, the gum of which is the best "picked Turkey gum," known, I believe, as "kerdofan," and costing me 4s. per lb.; the other, which is much darker in colour, yet a mixture in a "fluid form," and one that could be administered in the usual way, contains mucilage made from "Suakin" or "Talca gum," known as gum acacia "sorts," which cost me 1s. 3d. per lb., obtained purposely to make this mixture. As some of your correspondents have kindly pointed out that "experience, and not text-books, makes a competent dispenser," I feel bound to state that my experience is that of twenty-two years of the very best dispensing that it is possible to obtain, and with this experience I think I may fairly claim to be a "competent dispenser." During the many years that I have kept a "dispensing-establishment" it has been my chief aim to faithfully carry out the intention of the prescriber, and always use the very best quality of drugs, and it is by making the mucilage of the best acacia that in this case has been the cause of all the trouble.

I remain, yours sincerely,

INCOMPATIBLE. (49/36.)

SIR,—The temperature has cooled since September 14, and the borax in my mixture has, like Mr. Kennerley's, crystallised out a little. My son finds the crystals are borax, not calcium-borate (calcium from the gum). The B.P. does

say borax is "soluble in 25 times its weight of cold" water, but it does not say it is not in less, although it is; U.S.P. says in "16 parts of water at 15° C." (59° F.); and other authorities differ. I checked the weighings and manipulations of my assistant on September 14, and can vouch for their accuracy as though I had done them myself.

WM. MARTINDALE.

10 New Cavendish Street, W., September 26.

[It is difficult to distinguish between Mr. Kennerley's and Mr. Martindale's mixtures. They have the same separation of crystals, but Mr. Martindale's is more viscous.—ED. C. & D.]

Legal Queries.

We do not give legal opinions by post. Information regarding most legal matters in connection with pharmacy will be found in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, and in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," and Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty."

47/56. *Sperars.*—We are not clear about your question. If the traveller sells a patent medicine on your behalf, it is you who must hold the patent-medicine licence, but the actual sale must be effected on licensed premises.

43/33. *Victim* says to please his landlord he employed the landlord's solicitor to draw up his lease at 140*l.* per annum. He now sends a bill for 8*l.* 10*s.* and stamps 1*l.*, and "Victim" thinks this excessive, and asks if he is bound to pay it all?

[He is. The landlord is entitled to employ his own solicitor to prepare the lease, and the lessor's solicitor's costs are invariably paid by the lessee. The amount charged is quite correct under the Solicitors' Remuneration Act, and "Victim" has no grievance. If his own solicitor had been employed to prepare the lease, he would have been entitled to charge, in addition to the amount which the landlord's solicitor charged, the sum of 4*l.* 5*s.* for perusing the lease on behalf of the lessee. "Victim" has reason to be thankful that he has got off so lightly].

41/5. *Unlimited* has bought a half-share in a large concern, but has no deed of partnership drawn out, nor has he had the lease transferred to him, nor has the deed of partnership between the partner gone out and the remaining one been annulled. How would he stand in case the firm failed, and also with respect to the terms of the lease? Would he be liable under it all? The outgoing partner refuses to incur any expense to dissolve partnership or transfer lease.

[Without seeing the terms upon which the share was purchased it is very difficult to say upon what footing the new partnership stands. In the absence of agreement for any specified term you are a partner at will, but in case of the failure of the firm you would be liable for the whole of the liabilities incurred since you joined the firm, just as much as if you were a partner for life or any other term. The landlord could not take proceedings against you in respect of the covenants of the lease, except in a very roundabout way, but you would be liable to contribute to indemnify your co-partners against anything they had to pay in respect of the leases. It was very unwise to pay the outgoing partner his money until the latter did what was proper, and we think he can be compelled both to publish a notice of dissolution in the *Gazette* and to pay his share for the transfer of the lease and goodwill to the purchaser.]

49/2. *Nomen.*—If you sell your business to an unqualified person and lend your name until the person for whom the business is purchased is qualified, you are assisting in the evasion of the Pharmacy Act, but we do not know that you are liable to any penalty. The actual owner of the business would be liable to a penalty for "keeping open shop for the sale of poisons," even though he took no part in the conduct of the business. It is not necessary to announce the name of the qualified manager in cases where executors or companies carry on the business.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We reply to subscribers and their employés only upon subjects of interest to other readers generally. When more than one

Notice to Querists. query is sent write each on a separate piece of paper. When a sample accompanies a query full particulars regarding the origin and use of the sample must be given, and it must be distinctly labelled. Queries are not replied to by post, and those sent anonymously are disregarded.

38/27. *Juno.*—(1) Half a pound of Epsom salts is the quantity for $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of saline. (2) Sal prunella is used in smelling-salts because it is a cheap salt, and easily obtained in balls. The liquid used is ammoniated alcohol. (3) Brown and white vinegars differ in other respects than colour. Brown vinegar is generally genuine malt-vinegar; some white vinegars are prepared from this by distillation, but most of the white vinegar sold is a mixture of acetic acid 1 part and water 5 parts.

46/58. *H. C. B.*—You will find formulæ for the various microscopic stains in "Methods and Formulae," by P. W. Squire (Churchill, 3s. 6d.).

47/54. *G. P. G.*—We will insert your name in our dark-room list, which we publish at intervals.

48/12. *Inquirer.*—The Secretary of the Chemists' Assistants' Union is Mr. C. E. Pickering, the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, W.

48/7. *Ednos.*, a South London chemist, inquires if lime-water made with tap-water will answer the B.P. tests for liq. calcis. [It will answer the tests for alkalinity, but not the chloride test. London waters readily show the presence of chlorides.]

43/44. *J. C. K.*—(1) The white glaze on bricks is done by applying to the brick, before it is baked, a mixture of plaster of Paris, felspar, zinc oxide, and whiting. There are, however, preliminary treatments to be gone through, as the glaze would not stick in sufficient quantity. It is a subject, on which we cannot speak with authority. (2) For what to stock in the photographic line see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1896, or *C. & D.*, April 9, 1898, page 585.

54/19. *Vindex.*—The title of "optician" is open to anyone; but if you pass the examination of the Spectacle-makers' Company (Guildhall, E.C.) or the British Optical Association (63 Strand, W.C.), your customers will have some reason to believe they are dealing with somebody who knows his business.

44/9. *Diana.*—You can buy a house through a building society. No doubt you have such in your city.

42/66. *T. P. A. K. (New York).*—The following Gripe-water is eminently satisfactory:

Potass. bromid.	...	...	...	3ij.
Potass. nitr.	...	...	...	3ij.
Potass. bicarbon.	...	...	...	3ij.
Tr. cardam., B.P.C.	...	...	...	3vj.
Tr. pimento	...	...	...	3ij.
Syrup. anisi ad	...	...	...	3x.

Dose: Mix 3j. in a tablespoonful of water, and give in tea-spoonful doses.

42/71. *Guinea Gold* has a lady customer, 21 years of age, whose hair is turning grey. She thinks the fact that she has to work under electric light has something to do with the change. The young lady should be supplied with a stimulant lotion such as the following, which may be applied by gently rubbing each night:

Ol. amygdal.	...	...	...	3ss.
Tr. canthar.	...	...	...	3ss.
Liq. ammonie	...	...	...	3ss.
Aq. colonieusis	...	...	...	3ss.
Aq. rosea ad	...	...	...	3vij.

Shake the oil with part of the water and add the ammonia, then the tincture and perfume and the remainder of the water.

42/70. *R. J. S.*—We cannot make out the second ingredient in the prescription you send. We may say, however, that tracings of illegible prescriptions are seldom satisfactory, as the tracer is liable to unconsciously miss minute parts of a letter which may have much significance in the matter. In these cases we prefer to have a photograph sent us, or, if the loan of the prescription can be had for a day or so, we would ourselves copy it if we thought it of sufficient interest.

43/37. *Saucy.*—Penny Sauce or Relish is made from such a formula as the following:

Anchovies	...	...	...	3iv.
Pimento	...	...	...	3ij.
Nutmegs	...	...	...	3j.
Black pepper	...	...	...	3j.
Capsicums	...	...	...	3ss.
Treacle	...	...	...	3vij.
Tincture of asafoetida	...	...	...	3j.
Mushroom-ketchup	...	...	...	Oj.
Vinegar to make	...	...	...	Cong. j.

Pulp the anchovies and bruise the spices, and boil in the vinegar. When cold strain, and add the other ingredients.

If not dark enough, add some burnt sugar. It is also advisable to add 3j. of formalin to the above quantity to ensure the sauce keeping.

44/33. *Bath.*—Gelanthum is the name given to one of Dr. Unna's skin-applications, made by the following process:—Pieces of crude tragacanth are emulsified for four weeks in the cold with twenty times their volume of water. They are then treated with steam for one day, further swollen, and finally pressed through muslin. The gelatine, on the other hand, is swollen up cold, and then filtered in a steam filter after long exposure to steam-pressure, which takes from it part of its gelatinising-power. The mixture of the two is allowed to swell for two days in steam. After being pressed once more through muslin it is mixed with 5 per cent. of glycerin, some rose-water, and 2 per 10,000 of thymol. The preparation contains about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. each of tragacanth and gelatin.

44/69. *Rodent.*—(1) Rat poison (without scheduled poison or squills). Try the following:

Barium carbonate	...	...	...	3iv.
Plaster of Paris	...	...	...	3iv.
Fine oatmeal..	...	...	...	3iv.
Oil of anise	...	...	...	mxxv.

Mix.

Put a vessel of water near the poison when placing it. (2) We gave formulas for Combined Toning and Fixing Bath in the *C. & D.*, September 18, 1897, page 503, and November 27, 1897, page 856. There is another recipe in the 1896 DIARY which we know keeps very well.

43/12. *B. & F.—Syr. Ferri Albuminatis:*—

Ferric chloride	...	...	...	10 grammes
Fresh egg-albumen	...	...	...	375 c.c.
Sugar	...	...	...	750 grammes
Distilled water to produce	...	...	...	1,000 c.c.

Dissolve the ferric chloride in 60 c.c. of water. Add this solution to the albumen previously mixed with 200 c.c. of water. Percolate this through the sugar, and follow by sufficient water to make the measure.

The dose is a teaspoonful three times daily.

37/81. *Veterinary.*—There is no dictionary of veterinary terms published that we know of. In "Veterinary Counter-practice" all the terms used are explained very fully.

44/23. *Unguentum.*—Yellow oxide of mercury is used in Pagenstecher's ointment. Tarbeth mineral is yellow sulphate of mercury ($\text{Hg}_2\text{O}_2\text{SO}_4$).

43/31. *T. O. (Yokohama).*—In Felholz's method of making iodoform by the addition of iodine to ethyl alcohol in the presence of sodium carbonate the product represents in quantity nearly half the iodine employed. Generally three deposits of iodoform are obtained, the iodine which combines with the alkali being in the last two cases liberated with chlorine.

Trade Report.

Notice to Retail Buyers.

It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk, and, for crude drugs, without charges. For fuller particulars see the article "Lowest Trade Terms" in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, March 19, 1898, p. 473. C.i.f. quotations are for London unless when otherwise stated.

Buyers of essential oils are particularly requested to note that low quotations, especially for Sicilian essences, are rarely, if ever, accompanied by guarantee of genuineness.

THE last week of the quarter is rarely a busy one, and this week has been no exception to the rule. Apart from the drug-sales, camphor, ipecacuanha, and quicksilver are the only items which have peeped above a level surface. Camphor is in a firm position, and refined dearer than last week, but business in crude has practically been stopped. Buyers are now eager to get ipecacuanha, and prices have rushed up in consequence. Rothschild advanced the price of quicksilver to 7*l.* 5*s.* on Wednesday. The other alterations of the week are as undernoted:—

Higher	Firmer	Lower
Benzoin	Benzols	Aniline oil and salts
Camphor	Copper sulphate	Cardamoms
Creton seeds	Pepper	Nux vomica
Ipecacuanha	Potassium chlorate	Pimento
Lemon-juice (conc.)	Quinine	Quillaia
Opium (Smyrna)		Rhubarb
Quicksilver		Saffron
Turpentine		Vanilla

Java Cinchona.

The Government cinchona-plantations in Java have during the three months ending June 30, 1898, produced about 200 tons of bark, of which 125 tons were shipped to Tandjong Priok; the remaining 75 tons are ready for delivery. The plantations have suffered much less than in the previous quarter from insect-pests and other depredations; the *Euproctis flexuosa*, a caterpillar which used to make great ravages, decreased considerably in numbers, thanks to the special efforts made to check it. The best remedy was found to be the burying of weeds and fallen leaves.

The analyses made to ascertain whether and in how far manure (either dung or compost) affected the quinine value of the bark showed that not only trees treated with manure gave improved results, but also those not so treated, though in a less degree. The total number of plants in the nurseries now amount to 528,000, of which 410,000 are Ledgeriana, 98,000 succirubra, and 20,000 hybrids. The following numbers were growing in the open ground:—Total, 2,637,687, of which 1,684,356 are Ledgeriana (among which are 120,000 grafts, 4,883 cuttings, 43,227 seedlings, 1,334 original Ledgeriana and 39,910 grafts), 492,996 hybrids, 408,890 succirubra, and 51,445 officinalis.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is little change of special moment to be recorded in the heavy-chemical market this week, and a moderately steady all-round business is being done. A goodly number of contracts have been placed for delivery over 1899, particularly in caustic soda and bleaching-powder. Demand from home consumers is somewhat on the increase.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Prices for bleaching-powder and caustic soda are fairly steady, at late rates, for prompt delivery. For next year, however, somewhat lower figures are being accepted as occasion requires, and it is difficult to give any really definite values. Saltcake is in heavy demand, and is now very firm at 26*s.*

free on rails in bulk. Soda ash and soda crystals are both steady, as are also chlorates of potash and soda. 58-per-cent. ammonia alkali firm at 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* free on rails works in bags. Price is also fairly firm for next year's delivery, and it is doubtful if anything but a slightly lower figure would be accepted.

COAL-TAR PRODUCTS.—Benzols have at last taken a somewhat firmer tone, and to-day's quotations are distinctly higher, 90 per cent. being 10*l*. 4*d.* and 50 per cent. 10*d.* Anthracene is very quiet even at present exceptionally low figures, which are 4*d.* and 3*d.* for A and B grades respectively. Aniline oil and salts are also lower since last quoted, and now stand at 4*l*. 3*d.* and 4*l*. Pitch is steadily maintained at 25*s.* f.o.b. East Coast, and a shade higher is being asked for next year's delivery. Naphthas are dull, crude 30 per cent. 4*l*. solvent naphtha, 95 per cent. 1*s.* 4*d.*, and 90 per cent. 1*s.* 2*d.* Solvent wood, colourless, 3*s.* to 3*s.* 3*d.* per gal.; miscible, 4*s.* 1*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.* Creosote, 2*l*. 6*d.* to 2*l*. 2*d.* Refined tar, 11*s.* 6*d.* per barrel.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is quiet: Beckton, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; October-December delivery, 9*l.* 15*s.*; Beckton terms, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; London, 10*l.*; Leith, 9*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*; and Hull, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

SULPHATE OF COPPER is firmer: Anchor, 17*l.* to 17*l.* 10*s.*; Liverpool, 17*l.* 5*s.* to 17*l.* 10*s.*, and early spring shipment, 18*l.*

WHITE POWDERED ARSENIC.—In heavier demand, and price firm; 17*l.* per ton Garston.

GREEN COPPERAS.—Best Lancashire makes a shade higher, 38*s.* to 40*s.* f.o.b. Liverpool. There is, however, no change in Welsh, which still stands at 10*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton on rails.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, September 29.

CASTOR OIL.—Notwithstanding arrivals per the s.s. *Statesman* the market for good seconds Calcutta has been fully maintained, and the price to-day is 3*l*. 6*d.* per lb., and the price of first-pressure French is strong at 3*l*. 1*d.*, second-pressure 3*d.* per lb., while Madras good seconds range from 2*l*. 1*d.* to 3*d.*, but there is little demand for this grade at the moment.

GUMS.—There is rather more life being shown in the inquiry for Arabic sorts, the sales having been larger this week, but without any material change in prices, and the quotations remain at 70*s.* to 80*s.* There is no special change to note in the position of Senegal or Niger, holders of which, although asking reasonable prices, are not pressing sellers.

CANARY-SEED.—The unsettled position of this article continues, about 40 bags Turkish being sold at 29*s.*, followed by a sale of 40 bags at 28*s.* per quarter, and it is impossible to say how the market will go.

HONEYS of all grades continue to advance in value. An odd parcel of pile Chilian sold at 23*s.* per cwt., and about 500 barrels of the same description sold at prices varying from 28*s.* for pile X down to 21*s.* 9*d.* for pile 11 from the quay. Californian is very firm at the advanced rates, and values may be said to range from 32*s.* 6*d.* to 42*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., as in quality.

KOLA-NUTS.—Fifty bags of dried African sold at 1*l*. 4*d.* per lb., and a small lot from the quay also realised the latter price.

TURPENTINE is quieter, with ready sellers at 22*s.* 9*d.* per cwt.

AFRICAN GINGER.—About 200 bags have been reported sold at 18*s.* per cwt., for shipment, and there are still owners willing to take the same price for quantity.

BEESWAX.—Firmly held, although the volume of business passing is small. A sale is reported of mixed grey and yellow Chilian at 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

CETACEUM.—All the stocks in importers' hands have been cleared from the market, and holders are now firm at 1*s.* 3*d.* for prime white Chilian.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firmer at 75*s.* for first white French crystals not guaranteed B.P.

SULPHATE OF COPPER is very firm at last prices, but makers talk of better prices in the near future.

QUILLIAA-BARK has a slightly declining tendency at the moment, and 19*s.* per ton is quoted.

Hamburg Drug-market.

Hamburg, September 27.

The drug-market has been quiet this week, and prices are almost unchanged:—

AGAR-AGAR is firm and dearer; 315*m.* per 100 kilos. is asked to-day.

ALOES, CAPE.—Steady, at 52*m.* per 100 kilos.

ANISE, RUSSIAN, is dull; new crop to be had at 30*m.* to 29*m.* per 100 kilos.

BALSAM, PERU, is again a little firmer, and 17*m.* per kilo. is quoted to-day.

CAMPHOR, REFINED, is firm, but quiet. The price is still 245*m.* per 100 kilos., and very little business doing therewith.

COCAINE is firmer. The factories have raised their prices, and now ask 335*m.* to 350*m.* per kilo. for pure.

CASCARA SAGRADA on the spot is firm, at 45m. per 100 kilos.; but bids are wanted for shipments at lower prices.

CUMIN-SEED.—Maltese very firm and dearer, 47m. per 100 kilos. being asked to-day for new crop.

ERGOT OF RYE is unchanged, at 130m. to 145m. per 100 kilos., according to quality.

HONEY is firm; Chilian, according to quality, at from 23½m. to 30½m. per 50 kilos.

QUININE neglected, at 26½m. per kilo.

QUILLIAIA.—Easier, at 35m. per 100 kilos.

SPERMACETI is very firm and dearer, to-day's quotation being 270m. per 100 kilos.

TAMARINDS.—Quiet. Three hundred casks have arrived from the East Indies, and business done at 33m. per 100 kilos.

YPECACUANHA, Rio.—Very scarce and firmly held, at 24m. to 25m. per kilo.

OILS.—Castor is quiet and slow of sale; first-pressing, on the spot, at 56m. to 55½m. per 100 kilos., in barrels; October-December delivery, 54m. Cod-liver unchanged; 1898 non-congealing oil, 80m. to 85m. per barrel.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—Peppermint quiet; HGH at 5½m. per lb.; Japanese, 7m. per kilo. Citronella, 265m. per 100 kilos. Anise (Russian) quiet, at 12½m. per kilo.; star-anise, 15m. per kilo. Cajuput, 87m. per case.

Cablegrams.

AMSTERDAM, September 29.—Of the 8,137 packages offered, a total amount to-day 7,559 sold at an average unit of 4 05c. per half-kilo, for the manufacturing bark, against 4.06c. paid at the July auctions. The purchases were as follows:—American and English factories, who purchased the equivalent of 5,033 kilos.; the Auerbach factory, 0 kilos.; the Brunswick factory, 8,047 kilos.; the Amsterdam and Mannheim works, 9,991 kilos.; the Frankfort-on-Main and Stuttgart works, 4,466 kilos.; and various buyers 4,167 kilos. The prices paid for the manufacturing bark ranged from 7c. to 37½c., and druggists at 10c. to 10½c. per kilo. The tone of the market was steady on the whole. The total amount of bark offered weighed 694,195 kilos., and consisted of 632,179 kilos. manufacturing bark, and 62,016 kilos. pharmaceutical bark, which contained the equivalent of 33,046 kilos. (1,156,610 oz.) and 1,351 kilos. (47,285 oz.) quinine sulphate respectively.

NEW YORK, September 29.—The drug and chemical markets have passed through an active week. Rio ipecacuanha has been advanced to \$2 50 per lb., and firmly held at that. The following drugs have also been advanced:—Vera Cruz jalap to 8s. per lb. for prime root, valerian to 8s., and cascara sagrada to 5½c. per lb. for new. Spermaceti is also a firm market, at 27c. per lb. Morphine has dropped by 15c. per oz., and pilocarpine has also been reduced 75c. per oz.

HAMBURG, September 29, 12.7.—Turpentine is firmer to-day, at 46m. per 100 kilos. Japan ginger is also a rising market, and the same may be said of star-aniseed and Japanese wax.

SMYRNA, September 27, 12.20 P.M.—Agents for the American houses are buying largely, and have paid the equivalent of 10s. 3d. per lb. for new crop current talequale. The market is very firm, and a further advance is expected. Rain much needed.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Quiet. Ice crystals on the spot are quoted at 6½d. for 39° to 40° C. and 6½d. per lb. for 34° to 35° C. Detached crystals ½d. per lb. more. Crude 60 per cent. 1s. 11d. and 75 per cent. 2s. 5d. per gallon.

ACID, CITRIC.—Unchanged. Concentrated lemon-juice for forward delivery has advanced to 13s. 15s. per pipe c. and f.

ACID, TARTARIC.—Quiet at the easier tendency. English crystals on the spot 1s. 1d. and foreign at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 0½d. per lb.

ALOES (ZANZIBAR).—The market is very bare of fine stuff and extreme prices are asked; poor soft can be had at 40s. per cwt.

BORAX.—Unchanged at 14s. for crystals and 14s. 6d. for powder. Boracic acid is firm at 24s. for crystals and 26s.

per cwt. for powder. From Leghorn during August 1665 quintals of boric acid were exported, of which 5879 was taken by England, 4299 by Germany, 2239 by France, 3209 by North America, and 1009 by Belgium.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—The market continues in an agitated state, and business is practically at a standstill, holders having withdrawn quotations. Advices from the East are still stringent, and influenced by these and the small exports, prices when mentioned show the upward tendency. From 85s. to 87s. per cwt. c.i.f., for Chinese, and 95s. for Japanese were the last quotations, and up to Tuesday small lots were sold at these figures, but now all quotations have been withdrawn.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Again advanced. On Friday last German refiners put up their prices by ½d. per lb., and on Monday English refiners followed suit. The following are the rates for English refined:—1-oz. tablets, 1s. 5½d. per lb. in 1-lb. boxes; 2 oz. to 4 oz., 1s. 5½d. per lb.; ¼ lb. to 1 lb., 1s. 3½d. per lb.; bells and flowers, 1s. 3½d. per lb., ½d. per lb. less for ½-ton lots, and 1d. less for 1-ton lots. The quotations are without engagement, and a further advance is confidently mentioned.

CERESINE.—The "Länderbank" has succeeded in joining the Galician "Creditbank," and obtained the exclusive sale, with the result that a rise of 3d. to 4d. per 100 kilos. has taken place in this wax.

CHAMOMILES.—Belgian flowers are obtainable in second hands and in limited quantity at our last quotations, and even at 67s. 6d. per cwt. for the best flowers, but the importers want 76s. 6d. per cwt. for superior large flowers, and 70s. for No. 1. Second-crop flowers are now coming forward, and are of good appearance and excellent aroma. These are obtainable at easier rates, and there is expected to be abundance of them.

GALLS.—There has been a fair amount of business in blue Persian at 54s. to 55s., and green at 45s. to 50s. per cwt. White have also been in demand at 42s. 6d. to 44s., and supplies are scarce.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—A correspondent in Trieste writes on September 26 that, owing to a good demand from America, values of "open" qualities have risen rapidly, the last price paid being 64s. per cwt. gross c. and f. London pressed bales, whilst the pretensions of holders are now 68s. above conditions. Very probably the latter price will still more will be paid shortly if the inquiry lasts; at present there is a general good demand for all sorts of insect-flowers. Stocks are getting scarce in Trieste, and sales are being effected upon samples of goods still lying in Dalmatia where, as usual, many speculators are holding their goods, waiting for the favourable moment to clear a good profit. Up to now sales to the U.K. have been very small, but a better demand may shortly be expected.

OIL, CAJUPUT.—An Amsterdam report, dated September 9, says there is no stock there at present. An arrival, however, of 1,000 bottles is expected this month and 1,000 in October. Green oil is quoted at 3s. 6d. September-October shipment in contract-lots, 3s. per bottle; white rectified, 4s. per bottle, f.o.b. Amsterdam. In London 3s. 7½d. is wanted.

OIL, CASTOR.—Belgian of first pressing is quoted at 27l. to 28l. per ton on the spot, and second pressing at 23l. to 27l. per ton ex-wharf, and cheaper to arrive. French and Italian are without change. British make is quoted at 23s. per cwt. in barrels for first pressing, and 27s. per cwt. for second pressing, f.o.r. or f.o.b. steamer Hull.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The increased inquiry continues at the rates mentioned last week, although one agent offers 1898 oil at 81s. per barrel, c.i.f.

BERGEN, September 24.—The market remains unaltered, with small sales at 78s. per barrel, f.o.b. terms, for best Lofoten non-congealing medicinal oil. An improvement is looked for during October. The exports up to date are 5,750 barrels, against 7,075 at the same period of last year.

OIL, LAVENDER.—Good reports come from the South of France regarding the lavender-crop, but spike lavender is to be short, and the bulk of it has been disposed of in anticipation.

OIL, STAR ANISE.—The quotation from the other side is 6s. 2½d. per lb.; in London, 6s. 10½d., on the spot.

OLIBANUM.—A small business is reported in fair palish drop at 30s., and reddish, at 22s. to 24s. per cwt.

OPIUM.—Nothing doing in London though holders remain firm in consequence of the higher prices paid in Smyrna. Persian is quoted at 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per lb. for arrival, according to delivery, and 11s. 9d. to 12s. on the spot. Fine Turkey druggists' (10 per cent.) is offered by one agent at 10s. 2d. per lb. c.i.f.

SMYRNA., September 16.—The market remains dull and unchanged as dealers will not grant the slight reduction asked by large consumers. The sales consist of 2 cases new current talequale for exportation. Arrivals are 840 cases against 2,170 cases. Another correspondent, writing on September 20, says:—“Very little business has been done since August 31. An American buyer, who has been offering 9s. 10d. for new talequale, was obliged to pay the parity of 10s. per lb., c.i.f., for 15 cases, and this transaction was immediately followed by a purchase of 20 cases on behalf of the Dutch Government, consisting of selected slightly material, at 10s. 11d. It is not believed that the absence of rain so early in the season can in any way influence the autumn sowings; still, it has the effect of giving a firm tone, and holders are glad of any excuse in order to prevent a decline.”

CONSTANTINOPLE., September 24.—The close of the week shows a hardening tendency owing to the continued absence of rain, which materially affects the prospects of the autumn sowings for next year's crop. Holders do not show any anxiety to sell below present values—in fact, enhanced prices are asked. The sales this week are 40 cases, at 10s. 9d. to 11s. per lb. for druggists' grades, and 11s. 4d. to 11s. 6d. for Balukissar.

OBRIIS.—A fair business is passing in new crop at the rates quoted last week. The new root has an exceptionally good appearance.

PHENAZONE.—Very quiet at 7s. 6d. per lb., or this figure may be shaded in some quarters for 28 lb. lots.

POTASH CARBONATE.—It is reported from the Continent that the demand for Russian carbonate is exceedingly brisk, and as stocks in some parts are low prices tend higher.

POTASH CHLORATE has a firmer tendency, at 3½d. per lb. for crystals and 3¾d. for powdered, on the spot.

QUICKSILVER.—Since our last report there have been extensive purchases at 7s. per bottle, but the Rothschilds put a stop to it on Wednesday morning by raising their price to 7s. 5s., and second-hand holders close at 7s. 4s. The reduced prices for mercurials which we quoted last week still hold good, but another rise in quicksilver will bring back the recent figures.

QUININE.—Very firm; the demand appears to be entirely for consumption. Second-hand holders are now asking 10½d., but good business has been done at 10d. per oz., at which both Brunswick and Zimmer brands have changed hands. Imperial brand is quoted at 9½d., in 1,000-oz. lots, and Java at 9½d. per oz. Fifty cases of Java quinine, from the Bandoeng works, have arrived in Amsterdam this week.

SAFFRON.—Obtainable at somewhat easier rates, superior Valencia being quoted at 39s.; No. 1, 38s.; No. 2, 37s. 6d.; and No. 3, 36s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. These easier rates are likely to obtain until reports of the new crop come forward.

SEEDS.—There is more inquiry for Cumin, and sales are being made privately at steady prices; the quotations from both Malta and Morocco are above the London parity. Fenugreek is now in good supply, but there is little demand, although the price has reached a low level, 7s. 6d. to 8s. being the quotation for new-crop Morocco. Coriander is steady, but slow of sale. The new crop of Morocco is evidently being held there for higher prices, as none has yet arrived, although it was gathered in June. Linseed is firm, at 43s. to 45s. per qr. for bold clean. Caraway steady, at 22s. per cwt. Canary quiet, with small sales at recent rates.

SPICES.—A quiet week, with little change in values. Zanzibar cloves are a fraction dearer, and pepper is firmer. At auction on Wednesday Cochin Ginger sold steadily for the inferior qualities, but the better descriptions were bought in; small rough sold at 19s. 6d. per cwt., washed & rough at 18s. 6d., cuttings at 13s., scrag at 11s. 6d., and medium cut at 57s. 6d. Jamaica was bought in. Japan and Bengal unchanged. Owing principally to “bears” covering, Zarz-bar Cloves are dearer, at 4d. per lb. for October-December

rather easier; a few lots sold: common at 4½, and dull clean at 4½d. per lb. Cinnamon-bark sold at 4l. to 4½l. per lb. Mace and Nutmegs dull and unchanged. Good Natal Arrow-root sold at 5d. per lb. Pepper firmer; Singapore black on the spot sold at 4½d. per lb., and October-December shipment and also for January-March delivery. Fine Japan Chillies were bought in at 45s. per cwt. Pimento slow of sale, and at 4½d.; Singapore white at 8½d. for same position. Penang whites sold at 7½l. in sale, and at 7½d. for September-November steamer.

STAR ANISE.—Scarce in London, and 5l. per cwt. is the spot quotation.

SULPHONAL.—Is firm at 7s. 3d. per lb., although there have been rumours of a reduction in some quarters.

SULPHUR.—Sicilian is scarce on the spot, at 7s. per cwt.

TURPENTINE.—A strong market, and prices in all positions have been advanced, American, on the spot, being quoted at 22s. 3d., and October-December delivery at 22s. 6d. per cwt.

VALERIAN.—For fair bright root 23s. per cwt. is wanted and 32s. for dark.

Drug-auctions in London.

VANILLA was sold before drugs to-day, so that it was noon before the first of the fifteen catalogues was reached, and rhubarb was the first item. The interest of the sales was centred in ipecacuanha, but better Sumatra benzoin and improved Tinnevelly senna were to be had, and the bidding for the latter was especially good. The following is a complete list of the goods offered and sold publicly:—

	Offered	Sold	Offered	Sold
Aloes (Cape)	83 ...	51	Kamala	8 ... 0
Curacao.....	215 ...	57	Kino	13 ... 3
Socotrine	50 ...	0	Kola-nuts	21 ... 0
Ambergris.....	3 ...	1	Lime-juice	6 ... 0
Aniseed	15 ...	0	Limes	1 ... 0
Antimony	17 ...	0	Menthol	4 ... 0
Asafetida	99 ...	0	Musk	14 ... 0
Balsam copaiba ..	10 ...	1	Myrrh	95 ... 6
Peru.....	3 ...	0	Nux vomica	128 ... 83
Tolu	6 ...	0	Oil, cajuput	10 ... 0
Benzoin.....	366 ...	37	cassia	4 ... 0
Buchu	46 ...	0	cinnamon	8 ... 0
Calumba	75 ...	40	citronella	30 ... 0
Camphor (refined)	10 ...	10	cod-liver	16 ... 0
Cannabis indica ..	23 ...	0	eucalyptus	8 ... 0
Cardamoms	248 ...	144	geranium	2 ... 0
Cascara sagrada ..	100 ...	0	lemon	9 ... 3
Castorum	2 ...	0	lime	3 ... 0
Cinchona	7 ...	4	nutmeg-leaf	3 ... 0
Civet	3 ...	0	peppermint	12 ... 0
Coca-leaves	4 ...	0	ros (Bombay) ..	4 ... 0
Colocynth	20 ...	1	ylang-ylang	1 ... 0
Coriander-seed....	2 ...	0	wintergreen	2 ... 0
Croton-seed	27 ...	27	Orange-peel	43 ... 0
Cubeb	158 ...	10	Orchella-weed	5 ... 0
Cumin-seed	100 ...	0	Orris-root	17 ... 5
Cuttlefish-bone ..	102 ...	30	Patchouli	9 ... 0
Damiana	5 ...	0	Rhatany	6 ... 0
Dill-seed	115 ...	0	Rhubarb	241 ... 4
Dragon's-blood ..	12 ...	4	Saffrou	52 ... 0
Ergot of rye	16 ...	0	Sarsaparilla	58 ... 12
Fennel-seed	15 ...	0	Seedlac	15 ... 0
Fenugreek	24 ...	0	Senega	5 ... 0
Galangal	10 ...	0	Senna	748 ... 736
Gamboge	19 ...	1	Soy	20 ... 0
Guaiacum	5 ...	0	Squills	47 ... 0
Gum ammoniacum ..	15 ...	0	Tamarinds	29 ... 29
arabic.....	29 ...	0	Tonka-beans	19 ... 4
grass treec	36 ...	0	Turmeric	1 ... 1
sandarac	11 ...	0	Vanilla	238 ... 180
Honey	54 ...	29	Vermilion	2 ... 0
Ignatius-beans.....	10 ...	0	Wax (bees')	899 ... 358
Ipecacuanha (Cart.)	9 ...	2	Japan	48 ... 0
(Rio)	42 ...	1		

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: September 29.

ALOES, CAPE, sold fairly well at recent rates. Good bright hard fetched 26s. per cwt.; slightly drossy ditto 24s. 6d.; soft ditto, 21s. to 23s.; and dull soft, partly stony,

16s. to 19s. 6d. There was a peculiar lot, about half of which was of pale liver colour, that sold at 19s. 6d.

AIOES, CURAÇAO.—A lifeless market. From 25s. to 27s. per cwt. was paid for fair hard livery, 23s. for brownish ditto, part capey, 17s. for glassy and capey, and 12s. 6d. for a low lot, softish and dark.

AMBERGRIS.—A tin (5 oz) of "powdering" stuff was sold at 30s. per oz. The price is about a fourth the market-value of the fine genuine perfume.

ANISEED—A bid of 23s. per cwt. was refused for Spanish.

ASAFTEDA.—The offerings to day were not "without reserve," so there was no inquiry publicly, and fair soft pinky-grey block was held for 52s. 6d., and medium hard grey and pinky at 45s. per cwt. Privately, fine quality has been sold at 70s. per cwt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Not in demand. Some filtered Maracaibo was offered, but not landed in time. Maranham did not sell, although part of the parcel offered was reported to have been sold privately at 1s. 8½d. per lb.; for Para 2s. per lb. was asked.

BENZOIN is dearer, a fair business being done privately, but the sales were rather flooded with gum. Dark, blocky, unsorted Siam of Saigon character and poor flavour sold at 52s. 6d. per cwt.; fine Siam in bold almonds and full flavour was limited at 14s. 10s., and pea siftings of same aroma at 6s. 7s. 6d. For fine white Sumatra seconds of full flavour 8s. was wanted. Ordinary seconds, small palish almonds, rather false packed, sold at from 5s. 12s. 6d. to 6s., and commoner at 4s. 12s. 6d. to 4s. 17s. 6d. Fine white almond Sumatra gum is very scarce, and held privately for 10s. per cwt.

BUCHU.—Fair bright round green leaves, all more or less broken and dirty, were held for 6½d. to 6½d. per lb. For dull longs 4½d. was bid and refused, 6d. being required.

CALUMBA.—There has been more doing in this market during the past fortnight, and better prices have been obtained, owing to a prospective demand by brewers in consequence of the comparative failure of the hop-crops. Privately, 40s. per cwt. has been paid for picked and clean yellow slices, but in auction there was no demand, and the only kind sold was a low lot of sorts, generally of small size, stemmy and sandy, for which 10s. per cwt. was paid.

CAMPHOR.—Some Japanese refined in 1-oz. cakes which seemed to have evaporated greatly, sold at 1s. 1d. and 1s. 1½d. per lb. a bargain.

CARDAMOMS sold at irregular rates, but on the whole values are full up. The following are the prices realised:—Fair bold pale round Ceylon-Mysores, 3s. 7d. per lb.; medium ditto, 3s. 1d.; small to medium ditto, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d.; mixed sizes, 2s. 2d.; bold pale longs, 3s. 1d.; medium ditto, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 7d.; mixed sizes, 2s.; bold half-longs, 3s. 1d.; brown longs, medium size, 2s. 6d.; splits and pickings, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 2d. Ceylon-Malabars, although there was a good show, were not in demand. Grey seeds of full flavour sold at 3s. 1d. per lb.; brown at 1s. 8d.; and mixed kinds at 2s. 10d. The exports from Ceylon for the week ending August 30 were 9,935 lbs., 8,052 lbs. of which came to London. From January 1 to August 30 the shipments were—

1898	1897	1896	1895
336,149	345,095	220,259	250,845

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Spring arrival bark, rather thick, but sound, was limited at 22s. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—The only thing sold was a rotten lot of South American quill, which realised 1½d. per lb. An arrival of 1,185 bags Java bark has been received in Amsterdam this week.

CIVET.—One broker said he would take 12s. per oz. for a good lot. Privately, a fair business is passing at 11s. to 12s. per oz. for the same quality.

COLOCYNTHI.—Spanish pulp of indifferent quality, much broken and seedy, sold at 5d. Privately the market is very quiet, although importers are asking above market values.

CROTON-SEED.—Dearer. Good bold seed sold with fair competition at 84s. to 85s., and at 79s., 75s., and 72s. 6d. per cwt. for medium dark.

CUBEBS.—Unchanged in auction. A few bags sold at 24s. for rather stalky grey berries, and 22s. for small country damaged. Sales have been made privately at 24s. for fair berries in 5 to 10 bag lots; for a 50-bag lot 23s. per cwt. might be accepted.

CUTTLEFISH.—Unchanged. The only sales comprised small white bone at 2¾d. per lb., and dull broken at 1d. For the best parcel 3½d. was bid and refused. We believe this figure was afterwards accepted privately.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—There has been no fresh arrival from Singapore. The stuff offered to-day is a residuum from dealers, and lacked in quality. For pale seedy cake 6s. 10s. per cwt. was paid, and 7s. 5s. for dark and seedy lump of bright colour.

GALANGAL.—A lot of bright and boldish root was bid for up to 23s. per cwt. when buyers stopped and the parcel was taken out at 26s.

GAMBOGE.—Good dark broken and partly blocky pipe sold at 8s. 17s. 6d. per cwt.

GUM ARABIC.—Medium to bold Persian sorts were limited at 30s. per cwt. Privately the market is steady for Soudan sorts, with a small business at recent values, 40s. nominally being the quotation for Ghezireh where available. In Amrad gum there is very little offering at 30s. to 35s. per cwt.

HONEY.—A poor show and poorer sale at unchanged rates. Fair dark syrupy Jamaica sold at 20s. 6d. to 21s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—We deal elsewhere with the week's movements in ipecacuanha, which have been of an exceptional nature. The appearance of continental buyers on the market on Monday sent up prices of Cartagena and Rio root with a rush, the former to 6s. 6d. per lb., and the latter to 9s. 9d. per lb., was paid on Tuesday for the drug "as it comes." Holders of Cartagena have since asked 7s. 6d. per lb., and of Rio 10s. About 40 bales had been sold before the auctions to-day, bringing down the warehouse holdings of Rio ipecacuanha to about 100 bales. Nine bales of Cartagena were offered in auction, this being the whole of the stock of this kind, which has been selling quite freely of late. The only lot of Rio root to sell publicly was an old stager which the broker had previously bought in at 9s. 3d., and now sold at 9s. 4d. per lb. The next broker to offer bought in his 25 bales, stating that 9s. 6d. per lb. had been bid for the whole privately, and as the "room" would not go higher he placed 10s. 3d. per lb. on the lot. The next broker, whose prophecy of half a sovereign per lb. is now in every one's mouth as a potential realisation, said, immediately he came to his string, "The price is ten shillings, gentlemen. That is the lowest price." There was bidding up to 9s. 11d., but the 16 bales were bought in at prices up to 10s. 3d. For fine Cartagena 7s. per lb. was refused, but 6s. 6d. bought a very dusty short root.

KINO.—For Zambesi gum 4s. per lb. was wanted, and 10s. would buy fine Calicut ruby grain.

KOLA-NUTS.—Quite dead. Absolutely no bids were made in auction.

MYRRH.—Bold chips of fair flavour sold at 38s. per cwt., and other kinds were bought in at prices up to 5s. 10s. per cwt.

NUX VOMICA.—In better demand at lower prices, fairly bold grey seed selling at 5s. per cwt., subject to approval.

OIL, CASSIA.—Oil containing 75 to 80 per cent. aldehyde can be obtained at 5s. 9½d. per lb., which was also the limit in auction.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—The exports from Ceylon from January 1 to August 30 were:—

1898	1897	1896	1895
1,021,626	81,832	55,411	790,480 lbs.

There were no sales in auction, and prices are unchanged.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—A lot of 1897 oil was bought in at 72s. 6d. per barrel.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Australian was offered, and nobody would rise to 10d. per lb. for it. Algerian oil, of guaranteed eucalyptol content, is selling freely at 1s. 9d. per lb.

OIL, LEMON.—Three coppers were offered, without reserve, and sold at 1s. 2d. per lb. It apparently consisted largely of added limonine.

ORRIS.—Poor dull Mogador sold without reserve at 14s. per cwt.; no other kinds were offered.

SARSAPARILLA.—Firm Good fibrous grey genuine Jamaica sold at 1s. 9d., and damaged fibrous Lima Jamaica sold at 1s. 2d. Privately Jamaica root is scarce and wanted.

ST. IGNATIUS BEANS.—A bid of 3½d. per lb. would buy.

TAMARINDS.—In better demand, at unchanged prices, 9s. to 9s. 6d. per cwt. being paid for fair West Indian.

TURMERIC.—Madras finger somewhat dark, but sound sold without reserve at 11s. per cwt.

RHUBARB.—This drug has been moving off steadily during the past fortnight at well-maintained values, and were it not for the large arrivals we should have seen higher prices. The quality offered to-day was good on the whole, although there was nothing of exceptional fineness. But buyers were shy, and it was with the greatest difficulty that bids could be got for a parcel of part trimming round Canton, offered without reserve, the best of it being sold ultimately at 1s. per lb., and seconds at 11d., while flat root, somewhat spongy, but with fair fracture, also sold at 11d. The following were the other sales of Canton:—Good medium round, part rough, 1s.; ditto, part trimming root, 1s. 4d.; poorer ditto, 1s.; mixed seconds, 11d.; good medium flat, fair fracture, 11d. Good bold round Shensi, three-quarters pink and one-quarter grey fracture, and suitable for trimming, sold at 2s. 9d., and flat ditto, poor fracture, 1s. Good medium flat high-dried, even pinky fracture, sold at 11d., and 10d. subject was paid for small ditto; common round rough sold cheaply at 6d.

SENNA.—The Tinnevelly leaf offered to-day was of much better quality than any of the new crop previously offered, and some of the bales were fine in colour and size. These realised 4d. and 4½d. per lb., after brisk bidding. Fair even-coloured green leaves, medium to bold in size, sold at 3d. to 3½d. per lb.; first-class damaged, 2½d. to 4d.; seconds ditto, 2d. to 2½d.; fair medium yellowish or brown sound, 2½d. to 2½d., first-class damaged, 2d. to 2½d.; seconds, 1½d. to 1½d. These prices are quite as high as at the last sales. Pods sold at 1½d. per lb. Every bale of Tinnevelly sold (over 100 tons), but not one of the 7 bales of Alexandrian. Privately, small sales of Alexandrian siftings have been made at 2½d. per lb.

TONCA BEANS.—Fine París were sold at 2s. per lb., and poor foxy at 8d. The limits placed on Angosturas are easier, and 3s. 9d. would buy soft beans of fine aroma.

VANILLA.—Lower. The new crop is now coming forward. Privately the advanced rates of the last sales have been easily obtained, and in auction to-day the following were the prices paid, values on the whole being about 1s. to 1s. 6d. per lb. lower on the finer qualities:—Seychelles, fine bold crystallised beans, 8 to 8½ in., 22s.; 7½ to 8 in., 19s. to 20s. 6d.; 7½ in., 18s. to 18s. 6d.; 7 in., 17s.; 6½ to 7 in., 17s.; 6½ in., 16s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.; 6 in., 15s. 6d. to 17s.; 5½ to 6 in., 15s. to 16s. 6d.; 4 to 5 in., 15s.; hard brown seconds, 7½ to 8½ in., 15s.; 6 to 6½ in., 12s.; 3½ to 4½ in., 10s. per lb. The above prices were paid for a parcel in second-hands from Bordeaux. Mauritius were held for higher prices—viz., 20s. to 21s. for 6½ to 7½ in.; Bourbon at 15s. to 16s., and Ceylon at 15s. per lb. Poor to fair Tahiti were all bought in at 9s. per lb.

WAX (BEES).—Unchanged but firm. Except for the sale of Madagascar, the auction was lifeless. The following prices were paid:—Jamaica, good hard fair-coloured wax, 6s. 12s. 6d. per cwt.: fair sorts, 6s. 5s. Of Madagascar, one string of 348 sold quickly, and another of 441 was withdrawn for private treaty; dark yellow and brownish mixed sold at 5s. 10s. to 5s. 15s. Pale yellow Zanzibar, part black, sold at 5s. 10s., subject.

WAX, JAPAN.—Privately the spot price is 33s. 6d. per cwt., or 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. c.i.f. In auction 34s. was wanted.

Arrivals.

The following is a list of the principal drugs which have arrived in the port of London and other large ports in England from September 23 to 28, both inclusive. The figures indicate the number of original packages (bales, casks, &c.):—

Aloes, Cape	27	Nutmegs	12
Buchu	7	Nux vomica	213
Caraway-seed	25	Oil, castor	349
Cassia lignea	320	Oil, cod-liver	80
Chamomile	41	Oil, eucalyptus	112
Cinchona	288	Oil, peppermint	2
Cochineal	22	Opium (Turkey)	69
Coriander	7	Orris (Mogadore)	8
Cumin-seed	31	Pepper	4562
Fennel-seed	645	Quillaia	371
Fenugreek-seed	262	Quinine	49
Gamboge	44	Rhubarb	283
Ginger	90	Seammony-root	37
Gum arabic	95	Senna	68
Honey	354	Tonca-beans	6
Lime-juice	31	Tragacanth	2
Liquorice-root	10	Vanilla	3
Myrrh	44	Wax, bees'	40

Commercial Notes.

EGYPTIAN VARNISH-TRADE.

The trade in varnishes with Egypt is mostly in the hands of British firms, though there is very little difference between the prices of the best French, Belgian, German, and British varnishes. The French Consul at Alexandria, reporting on this trade, says all price-lists should be in the French language. The Customs-duties are 8 per cent. *ad val.*, plus about 1½ per cent. for various taxes. The chief brands of varnish offered are as follows:—London, Harland & Son, Wilkinson & Co., Nobles & Hoare; Antwerp, Rencla; Paris, Lefranc, Guittet.

SPONGE-FISHING IN THE BAHAMAS.

In spite of periodical alarms concerning the alleged exhaustion of the sponge-beds, the fishery at the Bahamas continues to be a flourishing industry. Prices in 1897 ruled high, and the various kinds exported, weighing 1,228,000 lbs., were valued locally at 90,000L. During nine months of the year the sponge-fishery affords employment for large numbers of men and boys, and over five hundred small schooners are engaged in it. The vessels are usually owned by capitalists, and the proceeds of a voyage are divided into a number of shares, which are distributed, in varying proportions, between owner, captain, and crew. A voyage usually lasts from six to eight weeks. Small schooners have been known to come into port after a six weeks' voyage with sponges worth from 300L. to 400L. The sponges are sold by public auction at Nassau, the capital of the Bahamas, and are chiefly purchased by agents for firms in New York. The processes of clipping and packing sponges find employment for a considerable number of the population of Nassau.

MR. ROBERT GREEN, who for nearly half a century carried on a successful business as a chemist at Woolwich, has this week been presented by his fellow-townsmen with a portrait of himself and a purse of gold. The latter Mr. Green has given to the parochial almshouses, and the portrait he has allowed to be hung in the board-room of the Town Hall.

GREGORY'S POWDER.—At the Trowbridge Petty Sessions on Wednesday, John Henry Aplin, chemist, Trowbridge, was summoned under the Food and Drugs Act for selling Gregory's powder which was not of the nature and substance demanded. The County Council prosecuted. It was stated that the powder should contain one-third rhubarb and ginger and two-thirds of light magnesia, but, instead of that, the sample purchased contained 48 per cent. of rhubarb and ginger, 42 per cent. of carbonate magnesia, and only 10 per cent. of light magnesia. Mr. Jones, solicitor for the defence, admitted that his client was guilty, but attributed the adulteration to a careless mistake when mixing. Fined 5s and costs; total, 1L. 15s.

Produce-notes.

JAPAN WAX.

The process by which Japanese vegetable wax is obtained has been hitherto very simple. The wax-trees, chiefly several species of sumach (*Rhus*), bear in the fifth year about 4 lbs. of berries each; the quantity increases until the fifteenth year up to 60 lbs., and decreases again from the eighteenth year. The berries are dried and then pounded in funnel-shaped vessels, in order to separate the fruit from the kernel and envelope between which it lies. The fruit is winnowed, steamed in hemp bags, then pressed and formed into cakes. A rough process of purification consists in melting the wax and throwing it into water, where it dissolves in flakes, which are bleached in the sun.

KOLA AND SPICES IN ST. LUCIA.

In a colonial report on the trade of St. Lucia, W.I., for 1897, Sir A. Moloney, the Governor of the island, says that the cultivation of the kola-nut is being slowly extended, and one shipment has been made to the London market, where good prices were obtained. The cultivation of ginger is also being tried by one or two planters, and a consignment which was sent to London in June realised 70s. per cwt. At the Botanic Station plants were distributed during 1897 throughout the island to the number of 21,138, exclusive of 9,000 ginger-sets given gratis to purchasers of Crown lands, and an impetus has been given to the cultivation of cocoa, nutmegs, and kola, 704 plants of the latter having been distributed gratis. Medicines to the value of 1,438/- were imported in 1897, as compared with 674/- in 1896.

INDIGO-CROP OF 1898.

The reports received by the Madras Department of Land Records and Agriculture show that the area of the indigo-crop sown up to August last in Government villages, was 114,900 acres. This is less than half the average area sown for the past ten years, and 41 per cent. below the area sown up to the corresponding date of 1897. The decrease is common to all the chief indigo-growing districts, except South Arcot, and is attributed partly to the failure of the early rains, and partly to the low price of the dye. In South Arcot the increase appears to be, in part at least, due to the substitution of the crop for ground-nuts, which are no longer so profitable as they were. From the Behar districts it is reported that some of the indigo-planters are winding up business on account of low prices. It is alleged, in explanation, that the demand for artificial indigo has made the cultivation of the crop a less lucrative concern. Altogether the prospects of indigo in the North-West Provinces seem far from rosy, though the shortness of the crop may compensate planters by improving the price.

SOUTH AMERICAN COLOCYNTH.

We have recently received a drug from Bahia, with the information that it is used there in the treatment of rheumatism. We find that it consists of the vascular tissue of the interesting cucurbitaceous plant, *Luffa purgans*. Fruits of this plant were sent to this country as long ago as 1835, under the name of "South American colocynth," with the view of their being substituted for true colocynth; but that, of course, never came about. The perfect fruit is about the size of a small pear, having a thin epicarp, and containing three loculae, or cavities in which the seeds are arranged; the latter are about the size of cucumber-seed, being dark coloured and slightly mottled. Martius, in "Systema Matieræ Medicæ Vegetabilis Brasiliensis" (1845), gives the native name as *Buchinha*, and states that an extract from the fruit is employed as a substitute for colocynth, especially in dropsy and ophthalmia. A 3-gr. dose produces catharsis, and larger doses act as a powerful purgative.

DOCTOR: "I just met your wife. That medicine I sent her by you seems to have benefited her greatly." **Dumley:** "Sent her? Why, Doctor, I thought you said that was for me, and I was in the hospital a week after I took it!"—*Richmond Dispatch.*

Coming Events.

We insert notices of association and society meetings in this section free if they are sent to us, on postcards, by the Wednesday of the week before the meetings are to be held.

Saturday, October 1.

Grocery, Provision, Oil and Italian Warehouse, and Allied Trades' Exhibition and Market opens at the Agricultural Hall. Admission: 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., 1s.; 6 P.M. to 10 P.M., 6d.

Monday, October 3.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. Annual Meeting, 7.30 P.M.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Distribution of prizes by the President, and inaugural address to students of the School of Pharmacy by Sir James Crichton Browne, M.D., F.R.S., at 3 P.M.

Charing Cross Hospital Medical School. The Huxley Lecture will be delivered by Professor Virchow at the St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross Road, at 4 P.M., Lord Lister, P.R.S., in the chair.

Royal Photographic Society. Forty-third Annual Exhibition at the Gallery of the Royal Society of Painters in Water-colours, Pall Mall East. Open daily from 10 A.M. till 5 P.M., and on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings from 7 to 10 P.M., till November 12.

The Photographic Salon, The Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, W. Open daily from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M.

The Optical Exhibition promoted by the Spectacle-makers' Company will be opened by the Lord Mayor (the Master) and the Lady Mayoress, at the Mansion House at 3 P.M. The exhibition will be opened daily till October 7, from 2 till 9 o'clock.

Tuesday, October 4.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Second annual dinner at the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, at 7 o'clock.

Wednesday, October 5.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Council meeting at 11 A.M.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. Council meeting at 3 P.M.

Thursday, October 6.

Chemists' Assistants' Union. First general annual meeting at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, W., at 9 P.M. Dr. Henry Dutch and Mr. Glyn-Jones will deliver addresses. The chairman of the Provisional Council invites all assistants, who can conveniently do so, to be present.

The Brewers' and Mineral-water Manufacturers' twentieth annual exhibition and market will be held in the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N., from October 29 to November 4.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society will begin its session and new educational arrangements on October 13 with an address by Mr. J. Rymer Young at 6.30. The annual dinner will take place on the same evening at 7.45 P.M. at the Masonic Hall.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association. Opening meeting on October 12. Mr. John Harrison, J.P., member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, will deliver an address, entitled "Pharmacy and Parliament."

Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association will hold their annual meeting at their rooms in Whimple Street, Plymouth, on Wednesday afternoon, October 12. The annual dinner will take place in the evening at the Farley Hotel.

THE CUBAN PHARMACY which was figured on page 451 *C. & D.*, September 10, was built by an enterprising Spaniard royally connected. He was a student of chemistry and much respected by those who knew him. He was banished from Spain but subsequently asked to return on pretence of getting back his position and appointment. He did return, and was thrown into a dungeon and supposed to have been murdered, for he was never heard from again. So says the *Retail Druggist*.



IRISH SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

SECOND YEAR.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1898.

No. 22.

Editorial Notes.

EDUCATIONAL.

THE Educational Number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST was published on September 3. It contained particulars of the requirements of all the Boards of Examiners in pharmacy, medicine, veterinary surgery, dentistry, and science in Great Britain and Ireland. The principal educational establishments, their lectures and instructional facilities were also noted, making the number a complete guide to all those educational requirements in which pharmacists are interested. Among other

VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

which have appeared during the month in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST have been

Notes on the most interesting features of the British Association meeting at Bristol.

Mr. J. C. Umney's articles on the galenical preparations of the new Pharmacopœia have been continued, and he has also contributed an article on Gregory's powder, which throws a new light on the alleged improper preparation of Gregory's powder by some chemists, and suggests that in some cases at least the convictions have been unjust.

A DISPENSING DIFFICULTY.

There has been a lot of correspondence concerning a mixture containing borax and mucilage of acacia, which in some ands turns out a jelly and in others a limpid mixture. This an interesting point to all dispensers. We have published

OVER THIRTY FORMULAS

ring the month, many of them new and original, and of pharmaceutical, and probably of commercial, value.

THE C. & D. DIARY FOR 1899

in active preparation. It is a book which is used every of the year, and all the year round, in thousands of pharmacies in every country in the world. Besides an excellent treatise on a subject of great importance to chemists a "Buyers' Guide" gives an encyclopædic index of dealers in articles used and sold by the trade. A copy of the DIARY is sent to every subscriber free. Non-subscribers are recommended to send on their subscriptions without delay so as to have a copy of this desk companion. The subscription for one year is only 10s., and can start from the beginning of any month.

The Month's Irish News.

P.A.T.A. in Ireland.

A representative of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association has been in Ireland, with the object, it is stated, of strengthening the newly-formed kindred Society, of which Dr. J. A. Walsh, proprietor of Graham's State Pharmacy, 30 Westmoreland Street, is the President. The Irish committee of the P.A.T.A. at their next meeting in October will consider a set of rules for the proper working of the Society and a definite policy for the future.

Dublin Horse Show.

At the annual horse show which has been held at Dublin, exhibits of drugs and chemicals were made by Messrs. Paul & Vincent, who showed chemicals, linseed cake and oil, phosphate-powder, &c.; Messrs. H. M. Leask & Co., who claim to be the largest importers of linseed in cargoes into Ireland; Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson (Limited), of Dublin; the Bovine and Vinolia Companies and Messrs. Day, Son & Hewitt, of London.

Must Recognise the New Pharmacopœia.

The Local Government Board have sent a copy of a letter to every Poor-law Union in Ireland in which they call attention to the publication of a new edition of the B.P., and to the fact that contractors are obliged by the terms of their bond to supply drugs in accordance with the standard presented by the latest edition of the Pharmacopœia. The Clerks are to call the attention of the dispensary officers to this fact, as the alterations in the doses of some medicines are important. The letter asks that samples of drugs be analysed in accordance with the terms of the medical contract and bond.

Linseed-meal.

In the last week of August, at Newcastle West, two traders, named Quinlan and Nunan, were charged, under the Food and Drugs Act, with selling linseed-meal adulterated with ground linseed-cake and foreign farinaceous matter. The defendants said they sold the stuff as they received it, and were not aware that they had violated the law. A fine of 2s. and 2s. costs was imposed in each case. In the same number of the C. & D., in which this is dealt with, we reported a case at the Fife Sheriff Court, where an exactly opposite conclusion was arrived at.

Liniment by Mistake.

M. Auguste Van Biene, the actor-musician, who was appearing at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, had a narrow escape from poisoning on September 4. Through the light being defective, M. Van Biene took a dose of the liniment by mistake for a cold-mixture. Medical aid was at once summoned, and emetics were successfully administered.

Messrs. Crosfield's Agent.

A man named McCorry has been sentenced by the Dublin Police Magistrate to one month's imprisonment for having embezzled the sum of about 18*l.*, received from various traders on behalf of his employers, Messrs. Joseph Crosfield & Sons (Limited), soap-manufacturers, Warrington.

Drug-contract Matters.

The following contracts have been reported :—

Boileau & Boyd, chemists, Dublin, with the Newcastle West Union.

Clarke & Co., chemists, Belfast, with the Dungannon Board of Guardians.

Leslie & Co., chemists, Dublin, with the Ardee Union Board of Guardians.

Thacker & Hoffe, chemists, Dublin, with the Guardians of the Milford Union.

* * * * *

The Listowel Board of Guardians have been told by the Local Government Board that they have acted unwisely in accepting Mrs. English's drug-tender, it not being the lowest. The Guardians wrote again to get the L.G.B.'s sanction, which they will not give.

* * * * *

The Killarney Guardians paid Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe, wholesale chemists, Dublin by a cheque dated December 29. The bank would not cash it as it was dated so far back. The drug-contractors have written to the Guardians pointing this out, also saying that the cheque was 2*8s.* 10*s.* too little. The account was subsequently settled.

* * * * *

The New Ross Guardians have been called to task by the L.G.B. for giving their medicine-contract to local men instead of to the lowest tender (Messrs. Hunt & Co.). The Guardians replied that some of the contractors quoted very low prices for some articles, and they thought with such prices they must put it on somewhere else.

Business Items.

Mr. J. B. Boulger, L.P.S.I., has opened a new medical hall in Main Street, Maryborough, Queen's County.

Messrs. J. Waters & Sons (Limited), chemists, Cork, have added a dispensing-department to their drug and chemical concern.

Messrs. Fannin & Co. (Limited), surgical-instrument makers and company pharmacists, Dublin, have opened a branch at 26 Wellington Place, Belfast.

Mr. W. Vincent Johnston, M.P.S.I., manager of Gordon's Medical Hall, Ranelagh, is about to start business on his own account in the same neighbourhood.

Mr. James Hogg is having a new pharmacy fitted on the Shankhill Road, Belfast. Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, of Liverpool, have the contract for the fittings.

The Rathmines *News* is responsible for the statement that a syndicate has been formed for the purpose of starting a new wholesale drug establishment in Dublin. Some of the best-known and most respected members of the trade are, it states, interested in the project.

The directors of W. & H. M. Goulding (Limited), chemical-merchants, Dublin and Cork, report a profit for the past year of 26,117*l.*, out of which a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares of the company is recommended, leaving a balance of 7,815*l.* to be carried forward. The reserve fund stands at 14,941*l.*

Personalities.

Mr. H. D. Backhouse, chemist and druggist, Dundalk, has been re-elected a Harbour Commissioner of that town.

Dr. J. V. Byrne, proprietor of the Medical Hall, Drogheda, has been elected Coroner for the borough of Louth. There were two candidates, and, the polling being equal, the Chairman's casting-vote resulted in Dr. Byrne's election.

The Irish Pharmacy Act.

SEVERAL cases under the Pharmacy Act (Ireland) were heard at Belfast on September 13, before Mr. F. G. Hodder and other magistrates. The first was against Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited) for keeping open shop for compounding medical prescriptions. Mr. Galway, who appeared for the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, said this summons had been issued inadvertently, and he withdrew it. It had been laid down by the Queen's Bench, in the case of *Pharmaceutical Society v. Boyd*, that a company was not a person, and, therefore, they could not proceed against the company for keeping open shop.

A summons against Hugh McIntyre, an assistant in Messrs. Clarke's shop, for actually compounding the prescription, he not being a registered pharmaceutical chemist, was then taken. Mr. F. W. Charley, solicitor, Lisburn, defended.

Mr. Galway stated that the Society's inspector called at Messrs. Clarke & Co.'s establishment on July 11 with a prescription, which Mr. McIntyre filled, and the Bench would find that Mr. McIntyre was not a person qualified to do so within the meaning of the Act.

In reply to Mr. Hodder, Mr. Galway said he did not go so far as to say that every person behind the counter of a chemist must be registered, but every person who sells and fills prescriptions must be, and on the particular date in question there were no persons in Messrs. Clarke's establishment so qualified.

Mr. S. McWilliams, the Society's inspector, gave evidence as to his taking a prescription to Messrs. Clarke's shop and handing it to Mr. McIntyre, who filled it and gave him back the bottle (produced) which bore the label "John Clarke & Co."

Mr. Charley objected that the evidence did not show that Mr. McIntyre compounded the prescription.

Mr. Hodder supported this objection, and dismissed the case without prejudice, allowing 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

There was a similar case to that of Messrs. Clarke against the Ulster Chemists (Limited), Peter's Hill, which was also withdrawn, and an assistant, David Monson, whose name did not appear on the register, was proceeded against. The evidence was of a similar kind to that in McIntyre's case, and failed to convince the Magistrate that the compounding was done by Mr. Monson.

The case was dismissed without prejudice, with 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

The next case was against Mr. James Hogg, York Street, who was summoned for keeping open shop, and also for compounding a medical prescription on July 7, he not being duly qualified. It appeared from the evidence that the prescription in this case was compounded by Mr. Samuel Hogg, pharmaceutical chemist, son of the defendant, who conducted the drug side of the business, and was in the employment of his father.

Mr. Hodder said the prescription was filled by a pharmaceutical chemist, and that should be enough.

Mr. Galway contended that this was really a shop being kept within a shop, which was a contravention of the Act.

The cases were adjourned till the following Thursday. When they came on on September 15, Mr. Lewis, solicitor, said Mr. Galway had gone away on his holidays, and asked to have the case adjourned for three weeks. Mr. Hodder, the presiding Magistrate, said he would hear the case now. The Court could not be treated in that way. Mr. Lewis said he could not proceed that day in Mr. Galway's absence. Mr. Hodder: I dismiss both cases, with 20*s.* costs, on the ground that there is no one here to prosecute.

Echoes of the Actions.

Messrs. John Clarke & Co. (Limited), of Belfast, write to the *Northern Whig* in reference to the report of the action against them and their assistant. They say the allegation of the prosecuting solicitor that "there was no qualified chemist on the premises that day" was quite incorrect. They not only had a qualified chemist doing *locum tenens* that day in the absence of Mr. Martin, but they had him in court to prove the fact.

The Ulster Chemists (Limited) advertise in the local press that the compounding of prescriptions at all their establishments is done by qualified pharmaceutical chemists. Every article is guaranteed pure, and the prices moderate consistent with the use of the best drugs and chemicals.

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Death of Mr. E. P. Murray.

MR. EDWARD PETER MURRAY, J.P., pharmaceutical chemist, member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, died on September 15, at Clones, co. Monaghan, Ireland. Mr. Murray's death was the result of a frightful accident in his shop. He seems to have been quite alone, his wife and family being away. About 8 P.M., on September 13, he was found behind the dispensing-counter by a former domestic, who called at the house, with his head,



face, left arm, and leg seriously burned with vitriol. There had been some oil spilled on the floor, and it was conjectured by Dr. Edward Tierney, who attended him and who gave evidence at the inquest, that he had been using the bottles on a shelf above him, when, slipping on the oily floor, he pulled the shelf down, a bottle of sulphuric acid falling on his head. This occurred on the Tuesday, and Mr. Murray died on the Thursday following. Mr. Murray was about 40 years of age.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL MEETING.

AT the monthly meeting on September 7 the President said he had attended the recent Health Congress in Dublin, and the paper here read on "Poison Legislation" was very favourably received, and would be printed in the proceedings of the Congress. Professor Moore, Chairman of the sectional meeting, when the paper was read pronounced it the most important one in the Section. The recommendations afterwards adopted would go forward with the weight of the Conference's approval to the Lord Chancellor of England and the Chief Secretary of Ireland, and would, he (the President) hoped, influence future legislation. Professor Tichborne's paper on the "Amendment of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act" he also said was a very valuable one.

The Vice-President reported on behalf of the delegates to the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and a letter was read from Dr. Symes (President of the B.P.C.) asking the Council to accept a photograph of a Conference group as a memento of the meeting in Ireland.

The gallery of portraits of past Presidents received an addition, Lady Martin, daughter of the late Sir Dominic Corrigan, Bart., having presented an engraving of her late father, the first President of the Society.

The question of the acceptance of a certificate of the lecture course of a school not recognised by the Society arose, but the application was refused, as the Society do not intend extending their list of schools.

Dr. M. R. Whitla was re-elected examiner in practical pharmacy of the Licence examination, and a new examiner,

Mr. A. Forbes Watson, Westmoreland Street, Dublin, was elected to conduct the pharmaceutical and general chemistry division of the same examination.

A few minor alterations in the regulations relating to the annual meeting were agreed to, but a proposal from Professor Tichborne that the hour of the commencement of examinations be 10 A.M. in future was not adopted. It was felt that the alteration would be a hardship on some candidates, who would require to come up from the country the night before.

Mr. J. A. Ray, Rathgar, Dublin, and Mr. J. M. Whelan, Galway, were elected members of the Society; and Mr. T. Dunning, Killenaule, and Mr. J. Moughty, Ballinacargy, associate druggists.

THE COUNCIL ELECTION.

At the forthcoming election seven councillors retire by rotation—namely, Messrs. Grindley, Montgomery, Kelly, Wells, Conyngham, Hayes, and Dr. Merrin. All of these except Dr. Merrin offer themselves for re-election. The four first-named candidates have formed themselves into a "party," and have nominated the following three gentlemen as "fit and proper persons" to represent the licentiates, &c.:—Messrs. Brittain (Drogheda), Michie (Blackrock), and Tate (Belfast). Dr. J. C. McWalter (Dublin) is also a candidate for election, and may be regarded as a free lance. Mr. R. W. McKnight (Belfast) also offers himself. In their circular Messrs. Grindley, Montgomery, Kelly, and Wells claim that they have devoted a considerable amount of time and attention to the business of the Society, and have endeavoured to carry out the Acts fairly. If re-elected, they will continue to do so, and use every effort to advance the Society, and to protect the interests alike of the licentiates and registered druggists. They add: "We are strongly opposed to limited companies being allowed to trade as chemists or druggists, compounding prescriptions, or selling poisons. If re-elected, we will continue to use our best efforts to have the law amended, and so stop this, the greatest enemy of both pharmacists and druggists. If you approve of our action, and are opposed to this great evil, we confidently ask the favour of your support, and also to return with us Messrs. Tate, Michie, and Brittain, whom we have nominated, and who are opposed to company-pharmacy, and, if elected, will support us in our efforts on your behalf."

On September 24 we published the following letter from Mr. W. F. Wells, jun.:

SIR,—When the *C. & D.* reaches your Irish subscribers this week the voting-papers for our Council election will have been issued. There are eleven candidates for seven seats. The result of the election will be of considerable interest to many, as the issue raised is a very important one. At the Council-meeting in May it was stated "the licentiates were very unfairly dealt with at the last election," and "that if many of the licentiates had got their papers back again they would have voted differently." Now, Sir, I am anxious that there should be a definite expression of opinion, and that there should be no misconception this year, but that not only the licentiates, but also the registered druggists one and all, should clearly understand the issue that is before them, and the question that each one has to answer—viz., Are you in favour of "company-pharmacy" or not? If they are, then by all means vote for the company-promoters; if not, then for the four retiring Councillors, who have served them faithfully in the past, and who have never attempted to sell their rights; at the same time to vote for Messrs. Tate, Michie, and Brittain, who are pledged to oppose company-pharmacy if elected.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,
September 21. W. F. WELLS, jun.

Dr. McWalter also sent us a sketch of his policy as follows:—

If elected, I purpose pressing the following reforms:—
1. The classification of methylated spirit as a poison, with the consequent restriction of its sale to registered persons.
2. The inclusion in the poisons-schedule of all the poisonous substances enumerated in the Bill now happily defunct (as recently suggested by Mr. Downes).
3. The better enforcement of the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts by the appointment of local secretaries throughout Ireland. (*Fas est a Sassenacho docere.*)

4. The periodical inspection and report on the quality of drugs supplied by grocers and other unqualified dealers, with their subsequent prosecution where practicable.

5. The recognition of the Irish Licence as a pharmaceutical qualification by all hospitals, asylums, prison boards, infirmaries, &c., in Great Britain, as well as its total recognition in all our colonies.

6. The restriction of Poor-law Union drug-contracts to chemists or druggists.

7. The recognition of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland on at least the same terms as the British Society in all future editions of the Pharmacopoeia.

8. The right of Irish pharmacists to be freed *de facto* as well as *de jure* from the patent-medicine tax.

9. The provision of a degree for pharmacists, by inducing the Royal University to grant a science degree in the department of pharmacology.

Together with such other measures as may seem calculated to increase the honour, dignity, and emoluments of our calling.

Mr. J. Michie, Dublin, has also issued a circular asking for votes and declaring his opposition to "Limited Company Pharmacy."

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting is to be held on Monday, October 3, at 7.30 P.M.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The second annual dinner takes place on the evening of October 4 at the Shelbourne Hotel, at 7 P.M. It promises to be a great success.

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